

Frances McElhill Receives United Way's Highest Honor – the Tocqueville Award

Press Releases

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Frances A. McElhill, Partner with the law firm of Archer P.C., has received the Tocqueville Society Award, the United Way's highest and most prestigious honor, in recognition of her outstanding community service and volunteerism.

The Tocqueville Award, presented annually, is named for Alexis de Tocqueville, a French citizen who in 1831 studied "the great experiment of democracy" in America. Impressed by the American concern for the greater well-being of all, Tocqueville applauded Americans' philanthropic nature in his literary work, *Democracy in America*.

Also honored at the event was Kim Fremont Fortunato, Director of Campbell Soup Company's Childhood Obesity and Hunger Initiative, with the Nathan Asbell, M.D., Humanitarian Award, in recognition of her work to advance the common good and make Camden County a better place to live and work. The award is named for Dr. Nathan Asbell, a prominent physician and former United Way board member renowned for his dedication to improving the Camden City community.

"Their work on behalf of United Way has created real, lasting change and far-reaching impact that promotes a healthy, vibrant community," said Mike Moynihan, Executive Director of United Way Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey (UWGPSNJ) in Camden County. Mr. Moynihan presented the awards along with UWGPSNJ Board of Directors member Mindy Holman, President and CEO of Holman Automotive Group.

In addition to her longstanding dedication to a variety of South Jersey civic and charitable causes, including longtime service on the United Way of Camden County Board of Directors, Ms. McElhill played a key role in the recent regional merger that brought together seven area United Way organizations under the umbrella of UWGPSNJ. By providing extensive pro bono legal services, Ms McElhill helped form the new, larger organization, which gives the United Way greater capacity to serve as a force for positive community and individual development.

"We are extremely proud of and grateful to Fran for her hard work and dedication in supporting such an important organization as the United Way, which provides so many benefits to people in need," Archer Chairman James H. Carll said. "Her efforts exemplify the devotion to the greater good that we consider to be an essential element of the firm's place in our communities."

Ms. McElhill has nearly 30 years of experience in representing a variety of tax-exempt organizations, providing general corporate, financing and tax advice. She has represented a wide range of institutions, including hospitals and other healthcare providers, universities and private schools, major social service providers, churches, museums, arts organizations and private foundations. Ms. McElhill also advises individual and corporate donors on making tax-deductible gifts to public charities and private foundations. Additionally, she has decades of experience in bond financing, and often represents tax-exempt organizations as borrower's counsel or serves as bond counsel in tax-exempt conduit financings involving tax-exempt organizations.



(L-R) Mike Moynihan, Executive Director of United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey; Fran McElhill, Partner, Archer; Kim Fremont Fortunato, Director of Childhood Obesity and Hunger, Campbell Soup Company; Mindy Holman, President & CEO, Holman Automotive Group

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