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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Write to the Point: Students Take Stand in Drunk Driving Essay Contest to Earn Cash for College

\$40k in 4 years: Joye Law Firm recognizes local teens for positive community influence

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C., July 14, 2009—Four seems to be the magic number at Joye Law Firm this year. Four local graduating seniors earned scholarships in the firm’s fourth year of the program, bringing the firm’s total scholarship fund to \$40,000 since 2006.

The following local students each won a \$2,500 scholarship:

Timothy B. Tucker II, Summerville High School

In addition to making high grades, Summerville High School student Timothy Tucker worked with a co-op program for the Dorchester School District, where he handled public relations. He is a member of the American Choral Directors Association’s Honors Men’s Choir and the Allstate Honors Choir as well as an assistant musician and volunteer with the South Carolina Association of Community Development Corporations. Timothy will attend Winthrop University and plans to pursue a career in music education.

Randesha Johnson, James Island Charter High School

With plans to pursue forensic pathology at Barry University, Randesha Johnson of James Island Charter High School participated in the school’s track and field team, spirit club, academic club, and math club. She received the Who’s Who Among the Nation of American High School Students award and is a member of the St. James Presbyterian Youth Organization.

Desireé L. Porcher, Hanahan High School

Student athlete Desireé Porcher lettered in track and field while earning high grades at Hanahan High School. Desireé was a member of the school’s BETA Club, National Honor Society, Future Educators of America (vice president), Upward Bound Math and Science Center (UBMSC), and Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Color Guard (co-captain). She will attend Charleston Southern University, where she will major in elementary education with a minor in psychology.

“This is a program we believe in and enjoy doing year in and year out. These are talented students doing their part to bring awareness to a serious subject that is devastating to their age group.”

Ken Harrell
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Robert Clayton Hogston, Goose Creek High School

Ranked in the top 10 of his class at Goose Creek High School, Robert Hogston was a member of the National Honor Society and the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps. He received multiple citizenship awards, Gator Pride Academic Awards, and "A" Honor Roll awards as well as being named a Newberry Scholar and receiving the Reserve Officer Training Corps AMVETS Medal. Robert plans to study biology and environmental science at either College of Charleston or Charleston Southern University.

The law firm members gathered the students together for a celebratory dinner with their families on June 30. Awards were given based on several criteria, including school activities, positions of leadership, special honors and awards, community involvement, academic performance, and academic and professional pursuits.

Each student also composed a short essay discussing the dangers of teen drinking and driving and outlining methods that they, their families, and their communities can utilize to make a positive impact and save lives.

Their suggestions ranged from launching a school club dedicated to bringing awareness through announcements, events, and educational pieces to pooling the resources of the local government and national celebrities to add leverage to the message. The students also went in-depth about the dangers of peer pressure and drinking, emphasizing that it's better to offend someone and save a life than to keep silent and lose a friend.

To learn more about the Joye Law Firm scholarship program and its recipients, visit www.JoyeInTheCommunity.com.

About Joye Law Firm

Based in North Charleston, S.C., Joye Law Firm has been fighting to help people face legal challenges since 1968. The firm has 10 experienced attorneys—with a combined litigation experience of more than 130 years—and more than 30 paralegals and other staff members. Their commitment to excellence is confirmed by the receipt of Martindale-Hubbell's highest legal rating (AV). In 1997, Joye Law Firm received national acclaim when it represented a family whose child died as the result of a defective door latch on a minivan. The jury returned a verdict of \$262.5 million, which was the largest personal injury verdict ever against an automobile manufacturer in the United States at that time. This verdict remains the largest personal injury case in South Carolina. Visit www.JoyeLawFirm.com to learn more.



NOTE: Photographs of scholarship recipients are available upon request.

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