



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2014

### MEDIA ADVISORY

What: **St. Cloud attorney Laura Tripiciano** to be recognized with human rights award

When: Wed., June 25; program begins at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Hilton Minneapolis, 1001 Marquette Avenue

Other: Laura Tripiciano, a partner in the St. Cloud law firm of Roberts & Tripiciano, has been selected to receive The Advocates for Human Rights' Volunteer Award for her volunteer work to provide no-cost legal representation to people seeking asylum in the United States.

The award will be presented to Tripiciano at The Advocates' Human Rights Awards Dinner being held Wed., June 25, at the Minneapolis Hilton.

Tripiciano has volunteered with The Advocates for 17 years, starting while she was a law student at William Mitchell College of Law, in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

She has a particular devotion to helping people from Ethiopia, the birthplace of her adopted son. In response to one of The Advocates' listings of cases in 2013, she offered to take on all of our new clients from Ethiopia. "Laura's interest in serving our clients is genuine, her kindness is unsurpassed, and her dedicated advocacy is unquestionable," said Sarah Brenes, a staff attorney with The Advocates.

The Advocates is the largest provider in the upper Midwest of free legal services to low income asylum seekers.

The Human Rights Awards Dinner honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the promotion of human rights and celebrates the work of volunteers whose efforts have made an impact on the support of human rights locally and internationally.

Others being honored include the event's keynote speaker Marilyn Carlson Nelson, who is receiving the Don and Arvonne Fraser Human Rights Award for her work to combat sex trafficking; Chingee Haltarhuu, an immigrant from Mongolia now living in Saint Paul, for her initiatives to halt domestic violence; Julie Shelton, an attorney with Faegre Baker Daniels in Chicago, for work on a number of The Advocates' projects, including its Africa Advocacy Project; and Mark Petty, an attorney editor at Thomason Reuters, who has since 2012 donated more than 100 hours translating in French and Spanish for The Advocates.

The Advocates, a volunteer-based non-profit organization headquartered in the Twin Cities, conducts cutting-edge research, education, and advocacy to save lives, fight injustice, restore peace, and build the human rights movement in the United States and around the world.

The event is open to the public. For ticket information, visit:  
[TheAdvocatesForHumanRights.org/HRAD](http://TheAdvocatesForHumanRights.org/HRAD)

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*The Advocates for Human Rights, a nonprofit organization headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is dedicated to the promotion and protection of internationally-recognized human rights. To learn more about The Advocates' local, national, and international work, visit [theadvocatesforhumanrights.org](http://theadvocatesforhumanrights.org).*