

## **DEBORAH HAGAN '81 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD**

After graduating from UDSL in 1981, Deborah Hagan began a long and highly successful career as an Assistant Attorney General with the Illinois Attorney General's office. Debby is currently the Division Chief of the Consumer Protection Division, and is widely known by consumer advocates as the leading Consumer Protection Attorney in the nation.

Debby has been the lead attorney in many major multi-state actions, recovering billions of dollars in restitution for victims of consumer fraud. After helping to secure a landmark 25 billion dollar settlement in an action filed on behalf of 49 states for foreclosure servicing fraud, Debby was honored by the U.S. Department of Justice with a Distinguished Service Award. Other recent legal actions, filed jointly with many other state Attorneys General, the FTC, and the Dept. of Justice, were settled under Debby's leadership, recovering billions for consumers nationwide, including but not limited to:

- \$335 million settlement with Countrywide, a subsidiary of Bank of America, for discriminating against minority borrowers
- \$136 million settlement with Chase Bank USA N.A. and Chase Bankcard Services Inc. to reform its unlawful credit card debt collection practices
- \$1.375 billion settlement with Standard & Poor's to resolve allegations that the credit ratings agency compromised its independence and objectivity in assigning its highest ratings to risky mortgage-backed securities in the lead up to the 2008 economic collapse
- \$11 million dollar settlement with LifeLock to resolve allegations that the company made a range of deceptive advertising claims that misled consumers to believe its fraud alert services would prevent identity theft
- \$<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> million dollar settlement with ChoicePoint, Inc., to resolve allegations that the company failed to adequately maintain the privacy and security of consumers' personally identifiable information that was in its control
- \$8.7 billion settlement in a predatory lending lawsuit against Countrywide

In addition to her unprecedented litigation success, Debby has testified before Congress, taught numerous CLE seminars, authored a book on Illinois Consumer Protection and led numerous committees, task forces and annual conferences for the National Association of Attorneys General.

Debby is a perfect example of a UDSL graduate who has embraced the school's values of professional integrity and community service, and has advanced the reputation of the school's values by her extraordinary achievements in her field of practice and her dedication to justice and public service. Illinois Attorney General, Lisa Madigan, describes Debby as a tremendous public servant, a tireless advocate on behalf of consumers, and one of the top consumer protection lawyers in the country, with extraordinary expertise and experience.

The Distinguished Alumni Award should honor a stellar career from a UDSL graduate whose leadership in consumer law has been instrumental in returning more than 35 billion dollars to victims of fraud.

<sup>1</sup> All facts obtained from press releases available on the Illinois Attorney General's website.