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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Planning Federation Presents Distinguished Service Award

POMONA – The Rockland Municipal Planning Federation recently honored Steven M. Silverberg of Piermont with the Federation’s Distinguished Service Award.

Mr. Silverberg is a partner in the Tarrytown, N.Y. law firm, Silverberg Zalantis LLP. He has extensive experience in representing developers and municipalities in land use, zoning and environmental law matters including litigation and appeals in the New York State and Federal Courts.

He has served as special counsel for the Village of Wesley Hills, the Town of Eastchester, the Larchmont Public Library and the White Plains Housing Authority. Along with Kathy Zalantis, Steve is Planning and Zoning attorney for the Town of Haverstraw and serves as special counsel to the City of Mount Vernon City Council and the Villages of Pelham Manor, Mamaroneck and Tarrytown. He previously served as attorney to the Town of Mamaroneck and Mamaroneck Village. Steve has also served as counsel to the Town of Greenburgh Zoning Board of Appeals and the Greenburgh Housing Authority, and was a Deputy Town Attorney in the Town of Greenburgh.

Steve is a former Adjunct Associate Professor of Law at New York Law School where he taught state and local government law. He is author of "Subdivisions and Site Plan Review", a chapter in Warren's Weed: New York Real Property (Matthew Bender, 1990), co-author of the book Wetlands and Coastal Zone Regulation and Compliance (John Wiley & Sons, 1993) and a chapter in American Jurisprudence Proof of Facts 3d, Vol. 31, "Zoning Proof of Inverse Condemnation From Excessive Land Use Regulation" (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing, 1995). He also continues to periodically contribute articles to various publications on subjects such as [condemnation](#) and [RLUIPA](#).

In 2010 Steve was named to Metro New York [Super Lawyers](#) and has received the highest possible attorney rating by the [Martindale Hubbell](#) and [Avvo](#) lawyer directories. In addition, he served as chair of the Environmental Law Committee of the Westchester County Bar Association from 1998 to 2005, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Westchester Municipal Planning Federation from 2001 to 2008, Chair of the planning board of the Village of Piermont from 2008 to 2009, Chair of the Education Board of the American Bar Association Law Practice Management Section (LPM) from 2009 to 2010 and presently serves on the governing Council of LPM. He also previously served as trustee on the Piermont Village Board.

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Steve is a graduate of Brooklyn College and the N.Y.U. School of Law. He has also been an Associate Member of the Rockland Municipal Planning Federation since 2000 and has been a presenter for the Federation's Certification Courses for the past six years.

The Distinguished Service Award is given to an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding performance in the field of land use (planning or zoning), enhanced the field of planning and/or land use or encouraged others involved in the planning process to improve their skills and knowledge and promote effective planning techniques. In addition, the award recipient should be a person who has demonstrated an exceptionally high degree of resourcefulness, integrity, competence and leadership.

In previous years the Federation awarded the Distinguished Service Award to Richard Ackerson, William Chase, Barry Conroy, Jr. (posthumously), Salvatore Corallo, James Cymore, Jan Degenshein, Dr. Mary Ann Gavioli, Robert Geneslaw, Michael Gurski, Jeffrey Henry, John Keough, Melvin Klingher, Arlene Miller, John Rocco, Tillie Schwartz, Adrian William Serra (posthumously), August Stritmater, Sr., Shirley Thormann, Danforth Toan, Donald Vernon, and Rudolph Yacyshyn.

The Rockland Municipal Planning Federation is comprised of Town and Village Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals members, plus members of the Rockland County Planning Board and the Rockland County Department of Planning. The staff, attorneys, consultants and building inspectors for the boards and land use professionals such as planners, surveyors, architects, and engineers are also members. Any individual interested in the purposes of the Federation may become an Associate Member.

The Federation serves a number of purposes, including creating and maintaining a forum to discuss common land use planning and regulation, zoning and related issues. The Federation also offers education and training in planning and zoning methods and land use issues, as well as certification for municipal planning and zoning board members.

At the Federation's 24th Annual Dinner Meeting, held on March 29 at Terrace on the Hudson in Haverstraw, members also elected officers and listened to a dinner presentation. Robert T. Guerra, Northeast Regional Vice President for the Simon Property Group, gave the keynote address. Mr. Guerra discussed "The Shops at Nanuet" and the related redevelopment of the Nanuet Mall.

Also at the Dinner Meeting, the Federation recognized Donald Vernon, who recently stepped down after serving 24 consecutive years as Secretary of the Federation Board. Mr. Vernon was the only original founding officer remaining on the Federation Board of Directors.

Officers were elected at the 2012 Planning Federation Dinner Meeting and sworn in by Harriet Cornell, Chairwoman of the Rockland County Legislature. Those elected include: Patricia Caldwell, Second Vice-President; Suzanne Barclay, Secretary; Ira Emanuel and Marie Lorenzini, Board of Directors; and Dr. Stella Marrs, Associate Board of Directors.

Officers continuing their terms include: Charles Frankel, President; George Hoehmann, First Vice-President; Salvatore Corallo, Treasurer; Christopher Carey and Brett Yagel, Board of Directors; Joseph Caruso, Associate Board of Directors.

For further information on the Rockland Municipal Planning Federation, please call Arlene Miller at 845-364-3448, or send an e-mail to millera@co.rockland.ny.us.