

ABA Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section Honors Attorney Sandra R. McCandless with Liberty Achievement Award

CHICAGO, July 20, 2010 — San Francisco attorney Sandra R. McCandless is the 2010 recipient of the [Liberty Achievement Award](#) from the [American Bar Association Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section](#). The award will be presented to McCandless at 7 p.m. Aug. 6 at the Westin St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco, during the TIPS Welcome, Diversity and Pursuit of Justice Award Reception of the 2010 ABA Annual Meeting.

The award was created in 2008 to honor those lawyers and judges who take a leadership role in promoting diversity in the legal profession by demonstrating, through choices made in their careers and work done in either private or public sector positions, that they have actively promoted diversity.

“We are honored to present Ms. McCandless with the Liberty Achievement Award, not only because of her service as a leader within her firm and the many bar associations she is involved with, but also because of her service as an advocate for diversity that spans the profession locally, nationally and internationally,” said Section Chair John Tarpley of Nashville.

McCandless, a partner at Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP, heads her firm’s labor and employment practice in California. She represents management in all aspects of labor and employment, including class action and individual litigation, arbitration, mediation, and employment-related advice. McCandless’ experience includes representing employers in the technology, banking, insurance, hotel, manufacturing, automotive, food, trucking, retail, garment, maritime and trade industries, in matters ranging from employment contract drafting and collective bargaining negotiations to wrongful termination and discrimination litigation. She is also an expert in the employment aspects of Native American law and tribal representation.

McCandless has practiced frequently in the international arena, representing many Asian and European companies doing business in the United States. Additionally, she serves as an early neutral evaluator for the United States District Court for the Northern District of California and as an arbitrator on the American Arbitration Association Labor and Employment Panel. She has also served in the Appellate Court Branch of the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C., where she received the National Labor Relations Board Certificate of Commendation for High Quality Performance.

McCandless earned her Bachelor of Arts in government from Harvard University, where she graduated with honors. She earned her Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center.

In addition to her law practice, McCandless is active in community activities. She is an elected member of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers and a past chair of ABA TIPS, where she also served as chair of the Committee on Employer-Employee Relations. She is a trustee and co-chair of the corporate committee of the Berkeley Repertory Theatre. McCandless has chaired the San Francisco Barristers Club Committee on Labor Law and various subcommittees of the ABA Labor and Employment Section. She is the former president of the

Korean-American Chamber of Commerce of the North Pacific Coast of the United States and currently serves as a board member of that business group.

McCandless also has edited a two-volume book set on employment law and practice, *Guide to Equal Employment Practices*, and written numerous professional articles.

The ABA Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section unites plaintiff, defense, insurance, and corporate counsel to advance the civil justice system. TIPS is a national source of expertise in tort, trial and insurance practice and brings lawyers together to share information and speak out on issues of importance. The section has about 30,000 members and 32 general committees that focus on substantive and procedural matters in areas across the broad spectrum of civil law and practice. For more information about the Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section visit the TIPS website, www.abanet.org/tips.

With nearly 400,000 members, the American Bar Association is the largest voluntary professional membership organization in the world. As the national voice of the legal profession, the ABA works to improve the administration of justice, promotes programs that assist lawyers and judges in their work, accredits law schools, provides continuing legal education, and works to build public understanding around the world of the importance of the rule of law.