



Information:
Dolores Schaefer: 212-417-3731
Lynn M. Kelly 212-417-3766

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kenneth Lau Chosen to Lead Manhattan Legal Aid for Seniors Project

NEW YORK, July 8, 2005—Kenneth Lau, Esq. has been chosen to lead MFY Legal Services, Inc.’s **Manhattan Legal Aid for Seniors Project (MLASP)**. MLASP’s chief goal is to help seniors age in place and maintain their independence by providing free legal services and community-based legal education.

Kenneth Lau brings 15 years’ experience providing legal and social services to low-income individuals and families. Mr. Lau has served as Staff Attorney in MFY’s Neighborhood Preservation Project since 2000, representing tenants in housing litigation, including appeals and Article 78 actions. Prior to joining MFY, Mr. Lau served as Staff Attorney for the New York Association for New Americans, Inc., counseling and representing clients on immigration and citizenship matters. He also worked as Program Director for the Chinese-American Planning Council, Inc., where he was responsible for social service programs and service delivery to clients in Chinatown.

“Ken Lau’s first-hand knowledge of Manhattan communities, his commitment to serving our city’s most vulnerable residents, and his expertise as a litigator made him the ideal person for this job,” said Lynn M. Kelly, MFY Executive Director. “We’re confident that Ken will build a program that will make a real difference in the lives of Manhattan’s most vulnerable seniors.”

The Manhattan Legal Aid for Seniors Project, supported by the New York City Department for the Aging, provides a full range of services to Manhattan residents aged 60 and older, including advice, counsel, and full representation at court and administrative hearings. Priority will be given to seniors facing eviction or the loss or reduction of public benefits who cannot afford an attorney. Priority will also be given to seniors who are being abused physically or emotionally and who are victims of financial exploitation. MFY Legal Services will handle the cases of seniors living on or below 110th Street, and Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation, which is partnering on the project, will serve seniors living above 110th Street.

###