



NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Idaho Community Foundation Names New President and CEO

The Idaho Community Foundation (ICF) is pleased to announce that Cathy R. Silak will be the new President and Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation. Silak will replace the current President and CEO Alice Hennessey, who is retiring June 1.

ICF Board Chairman Dolores Chapman says, "We were sad to hear the news that Alice is retiring. During her seven and a half years as CEO, membership has grown from about 150 to well over 1000 – a sevenfold increase. The number of funds in the Foundation has more than doubled to about 300. Total assets quadrupled to \$48.6 million at year end 2003. During Alice's tenure as CEO, the Idaho Community Foundation has become a much stronger presence throughout Idaho."

"We had a very strong field of applicants for the position," says Chapman, "but at the end of the day, Cathy Silak was the absolute right fit for the Foundation. Her first official introduction to the ICF family will be made at our annual luncheon Wednesday, May 5, and she will begin her transition on May 17."

Silak says, "It is an honor to work with the Idaho Community Foundation's outstanding Board of Directors and staff to achieve the vision of supporting communities in each region of Idaho through philanthropy. I am excited and eager to assume my responsibilities as President and CEO, and to meet with our donors, members, and community representatives."

Silak was the first woman appointed appellate judge in Idaho's history. She was appointed to the Idaho Supreme Court in 1993, and became the Court's Vice-Chief Justice in 1997. She is the author of hundreds of legal opinions now comprising Idaho law. During 2000, Silak resumed her partnership at Hawley Troxell Ennis and Hawley, Boise, where her practice has focused on corporate governance and intellectual property law for emerging and established businesses. She has also specialized in health law and employment law for the for-profit, non-profit and governmental sectors.

Silak received her B.A. from New York University, her Master's Degree in City Planning from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, her Law Degree from the University of California at Berkeley School of Law and a Master of Law Degree from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, the ICF Board of Directors was particularly interested in Silak's commitment and passion for building community. She has served on the boards of St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Boise State University Foundation, The Children's School, Bishop Kelly Foundation, Boise Family YMCA, Idaho Youth Ranch and Idaho Human Rights Education Center; was a Founding Member of the Idaho Coalition for Adult Literacy; served as an Advisory Board Member of United Way Success by Six, Project Safe Place of the Bannock Youth Foundation, The Learning Lab and Boise State University Legal Assistants Program.

Silak is a past recipient of the Joyce Stein Award from the YWCA (now WCA), Boise State University's Women Making History award, the Soroptimist International "Women Helping Women" Award, the March of

Dimes White Rose Award, and the Service to Youth Award from the Boise Family YMCA. Silak has also been awarded the Idaho State Bar Family Law Section Annual Award.

She is married to Boise attorney Nicholas G. Miller and has three children, Hartley, Martha and Michael Miller.

Hawley Troxell Managing Partner Pat Collins says, "While we are sorry to see Cathy Silak leave her practice with HTEH, we fully support the Idaho Community Foundation's mission in our state, and Cathy's passion for the Foundation's work."

Persons interested in donating to the Idaho Community Foundation should call 1-800-657-5357. Non-profits interested in applying for a grant should visit ICF's website at www.idcomfdn.org for more information.

The Idaho Community Foundation is a statewide, tax-exempt, nonprofit organization composed of about 300 individual funds which are pooled for efficient management. Total assets at year-end 2003 were \$48.6 million. ICF attracts assets from a wide range of donors within and outside the state of Idaho and manages and invests its assets primarily as permanent endowment. Return from the endowment is distributed to charitable organizations as grants aimed at enriching life's quality throughout Idaho communities. Since inception in 1988, ICF has made charitable distributions totaling more than \$19 million.

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An electronic version of this press release and a picture of Cathy Silak (jpg format) is available on our website at www.idcomfdn.org/news.htm or you may send us an email requesting a jpg photo.

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