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**Dwyer & Collora Launches Charitable Foundation in Honor of Judge
Thomas E. Dwyer**

*Initial Foundation funding of \$100,000
First grant will fund initiative to join business and public sector in
aiding re-entering prisoners*

BOSTON, April 24, 2007 – The law firm of Dwyer & Collora, LLP announced the launch of the Dwyer & Collora Foundation, Inc. The foundation is dedicated to insuring that those citizens who are unrepresented are provided with services and counsel within the judicial system. The Foundation is launching with a grant in honor of former Massachusetts Superior Court Judge Thomas E. Dwyer, father of one of the firm’s founders, attorney Thomas E. Dwyer, Jr. The Foundation’s initial grant, in memory of Judge Dwyer’s half-century commitment to justice for the powerless, was awarded to Community Resources for Justice to support a new initiative that will assist prisoners making the difficult transition back into society.

The grant will form the backbone of a major initiative to involve the private and public sectors in substantially reforming the methods of prisoner re-entry. The goal of the initiative is to decrease recidivism and serve the business community by providing much needed labor in key industries in Massachusetts.

Since its founding in 1988, Dwyer & Collora has made substantial contributions to provide legal representation to inmates and low income defendants in the Greater Boston community. By creating a foundation and presenting its initial grant to Community Resources for Justice (CRJ), the partners of Dwyer & Collora are honoring Judge Dwyer’s legacy and initiating a long-term partnership with CRJ to address the challenges of prisoner re-entry into society.

“We hope our contribution can make a difference in the lives of thousands of men and women who seek to re-enter lawful society,” said Thomas E. Dwyer, Jr. “We firmly believe that initiatives of this nature will substantially reduce crime and create a framework for thousands of former inmates to obtain work, to have families to participate in the community and, most importantly, to serve as a model for others at risk.”

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The initial grant will fund a national conference of criminal justice experts who will identify evidence-based best practices among prisoner re-entry programs. The second phase of the project will be development of a prototype re-entry and jobs training program to be implemented in Massachusetts. The final step will be development and implementation of an action plan for Massachusetts.

In addition to his tenure as Associate Justice to the Massachusetts Superior Court from 1971-1986, Judge Dwyer also served as Of Counsel to Dwyer & Collora from 1988-2000. Early in his career, after serving in the United States Army during World War II, he was a member of Voluntary Defenders of Massachusetts, the first group of public defenders for criminal cases in the nation. Throughout his career Judge Dwyer was a tireless advocate for criminal justice reform.

According to John Larivee, CEO of Community Resources for Justice, the grant and partnership with the Dwyer & Collora Foundation, will help contribute research, advocacy and consciousness-raising about applying evidence-based practices to the 20,000 prisoners in the Commonwealth who must make the transition from prison to society each year. “We are excited about this opportunity to partner with the Dwyer & Collora Foundation not only to bring attention and energy to the agenda of prisoner reentry in Massachusetts, but to honor Judge Dwyer, a longtime friend and colleague of CRJ, and a champion for the critical work of criminal justice and social justice reform.” Larivee also noted that the grant will build a strong and productive relationship with the business community, which is in need of employees.

Community Resources for Justice, Inc. celebrates 129 years this year, originally founded as “The New England Society for the Suppression of Vice” in 1878. Today CRJ serves more than 1300 clients annually in Massachusetts and New Hampshire with residential and day programs for troubled youth, men and women offenders, and individuals with developmental disabilities.

Dwyer & Collora, LLP is a litigation firm located in downtown Boston. The firm represents individual and corporate clients in business disputes, white collar criminal cases, employment law and health care matters.

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For information about Dwyer & Collora visit www.dwyercollora.com.

For information about Community Resources for Justice visit www.crjustice.org.