



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**From the Tennessee Bar Association**

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**Memphis Attorney Recognized for Katrina Work**  
*Special recognition award presented at capitol ceremony*

NASHVILLE, Jan. 23, 2007 — Craig Barnes, an attorney with Memphis Area Legal Services Inc. (MALS), was recently presented with a special recognition at the Tennessee Bar Association's annual public service luncheon. Held as part of the association's leadership conference, the luncheon took place in the state capitol rotunda and featured award winners in several categories as well as a keynote address by Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell.

Barnes was recognized for the full-time volunteer work he contributed to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in Memphis. Soon after relocating from Seattle and waiting for his Tennessee law license to be approved, Barnes began volunteering at MALS. He coordinated attorney and intake personnel schedules, handled client inquiries, drafted a training manual, opened cases and handled logistics with federal and state emergency management agencies. When his license came through, Barnes committed several days a week to working on Katrina-related cases, all pro bono. Linda Warren Seely, director of internal operations and pro bono programs at MALS, says that in all, Barnes donated the equivalent of six months of pro bono time. In January 2006, knowing what kind of attorney they were hiring, MALS offered him a paid position.

A photograph of Barnes is attached.

The Tennessee Bar Association (TBA) is the largest professional association in Tennessee with about 9,000 members. Founded in 1881, the TBA provides opportunities for continuing legal education, professional development and public service. The TBA's dedication to serving the state's legal community is evidenced by its membership roll, which represents the entire spectrum of legal practice: plaintiff and defense lawyers, corporate counsel, judges, prosecutors, public defenders, government lawyers and legal services attorneys.

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