



# **National Association of Women Lawyers®**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **WAL-MART STORES, INC. HONORED FOR DIVERSITY EFFORTS BY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS**

CHICAGO May 25, 2006 -- The National Association of Women Lawyers® (NAWL®) announced today that Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., is the recipient of its President's Award for 2006. The award will be presented at NAWL's Annual Meeting, which is taking place at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City on July 18. Tickets to the event are available through the NAWL website at [www.nawl.org](http://www.nawl.org).

"The National Association of Women Lawyers® wants to acknowledge and honor companies that make a strong effort in the advancement of women lawyers," stated Lorraine Koc, president of NAWL. "The Wal-Mart Legal Department's diversity initiative has been an enormous step forward in this respect. The company has established itself as an example in the corporate world by holding law firms to a high standard of diversity and inclusiveness."

Wal-Mart has taken a well-known stance in recent years with both vendors and law firms used by the company, at first encouraging, and then insisting, that the companies and firms employ a diverse workforce. In particular, law firms have been asked to propose at least one minority and one woman as the relationship partner on Wal-Mart matters, a position applauded by NAWL. As a result, more women and minorities manage Wal-Mart's legal work at its key law firms around the country. The leadership position taken by Wal-Mart in this respect has led to their being named for the prestigious President's Award.

The Award luncheon is co-sponsored by a number of other groups, including the New York and New Jersey chapters of the American Corporate Counsel Association, National Conference of Women's Bar Associations, National Association of Women Judges, and ABA Women Rainmakers. U.S. District Court Judge Katharine S. Hayden will also be honored.

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*The National Association of Women Lawyers® is the oldest women's bar association in the United States. Founded in 1899, NAWL has a long history of advancing the interests of women lawyers in the*

*profession. NAWL hosts a variety of educational programs for lawyers at all stages of their career. For more information, contact [www.nawl.org](http://www.nawl.org).*