



NEWS RELEASE

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Paul V. Profeta, Junius W. Williams and Ron Beit Honored At New Jersey Institute for Social Justice Awards Gala

NEWARK, NJ – At its 2014 Annual Awards Gala on June 11, the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice (NJISJ) will honor three exemplary civic leaders for their dedication to social justice for all New Jersey residents.

“One way to overcome the deafening sound of fear in many of our communities is with the sound of reform: serious and sustained community conversation and structured civic dialogue,” said NJISJ President and CEO Cornell Brooks. “The people we will honor at our Awards Dinner exemplify through their work and their personal lives the best of the best in terms of driving social and economic reform and community development in New Jersey.”

NJISJ’s Corporate Leadership Award will be presented to Paul V. Profeta, president and owner of Paul V. Profeta and Associates, Inc., a real estate investment, management and leasing company. He is also publisher of *RADIUS* magazine. Profeta founded the Profeta Urban Investment Foundation at Rutgers Business School, which provides free consulting advice and seed capital for minority-owned businesses in Newark. Profeta also has been an Adjunct Professor at Columbia Graduate School of Business.

The 2014 NJISJ Alan V. and Amy Lowenstein Social Justice Award will be presented to Junius W. Williams, director of the Abbott Leadership Institute at Rutgers University-Newark. Williams is a noted attorney, educator, musician and community advocate. He teaches advocacy skills to parents and professional educators at the Rutgers Leadership Institute. Previously, Williams was Director of Community Development and the Model Cities Program for the City of Newark and the University Heights Development Corporation. As advocate, planner, administrator and developer, he is responsible for the construction of more than 2,000 units of housing in Newark.

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The NJISJ 2014 Community Builder Award will be presented to Ron Beit, founding partner and CEO of RBH Group, LLC and President of RBH Management, which offer full-service real estate financing, development and management services to foster urban redevelopment. Beit has acquired, developed, rehabilitated, and/or operated more than 1 million square feet of office, retail, industrial, hotel, and residential space in more than 30 projects nationwide. In downtown Newark, Beit's projects include the development of Teachers Village. When completed next year, Teachers Village will house three new charter schools and 213 affordable residential apartments, all marketed to teachers. The project also includes a retail element with 28 shops, many of which will be storefronts for Newark-based businesses.

The 2014 NJISJ Awards Gala Dinner will be held on Wednesday, June 11 at 6 p.m. at The Park Savoy, 236 Ridgedale Avenue in Florham Park. Sponsors of Awards Gala include RBH Group, Lowenstein Sandler LLP, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, Prudential Financial, Johnson & Johnson, Public Service Electric & Gas Company, East Orange General Hospital, New Ark Farms, Provident Bank, Rutgers University - Newark, as well as the many other Gala supporters. For tickets or more information, contact NJISJ at 973-624-9400 or nmccormack@njisj.org.

The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice is a Newark-based urban research and advocacy organization dedicated to the advancement of New Jersey's cities and their neighborhoods, families and individual residents. The Institute believes that urban areas of New Jersey, especially Newark, hold remarkable potential to act as regionally competitive economic engines, while providing resilient, vital and attractive communities to their residents. The Institute identifies, analyzes and addresses the underlying causes of social and economic disparities and challenges the barriers that constrain cities and their residents from achieving their fullest potential. For more information, email justice@njisj.org or visit www.njisj.org.

“Social justice should be the underlying goal of all humanity.”

- Alan V. Lowenstein, Esq., Founder, NJISJ

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