

WELBORN SULLIVAN MECK & TOOLEY, P.C.

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Media Contact:

JoAnne Gann

jgann@wsmtlaw.com

303.830.2500



Dale Tooley Plaza to be Dedicated October 13, 2010

Denver, CO - September 27, 2010 – On October 13, 2010 Mayor Hickenlooper, Governor Ritter, Councilwoman Jeanne Robb, and Deputy Mayor Guillermo (Bill) Vidal will dedicate the main plaza at the new Denver Justice Center as **The Dale Tooley Plaza**, named after Denver's District Attorney who served from 1973 to 1983. Dale Tooley's three sons – all well respected Denver attorneys – will be present at the ceremony to honor their father and the example he set for his family and the legal profession in Denver.

The lawyers are Brian Tooley, Keith Tooley and Patrick Tooley. Brian and Keith are litigators for Welborn Sullivan Meck and Tooley, PC. Patrick is a litigator for Dill Dill Carr Stonbraker and Hutchings PC. The three attorneys are sons of the late Dale Tooley, who passed away 25 years ago this year.

Dale Tooley, a Colorado native and University of Colorado graduate, elected three times as Denver's District Attorney from 1973 to 1982. Dedicated to serving the Denver community throughout his lifetime, Dale championed the passage of more than 100 pieces of legislation to bring about much-needed reforms in the criminal justice legal system. He established standards for the decent treatment of victims and witnesses and created Denver's victim compensation program, leading to the enactment of a statewide program. He created preemptive programs, such as neighborhood watch, rape prevention, juvenile diversion and Colorado's first domestic violence unit. He granted his attorneys discretion, insisting their guiding star be justice, not merely convictions. He pioneered hiring diversity in the Denver District Attorney's Office, increasing minority staffing from three to over 50 percent during his eleven-year tenure; and, most importantly, he championed the commitment to strive for justice locally, nationally, and globally.

Dale ran for mayor three times while Denver DA. While he was unsuccessful in his bid for mayor, he was recognized as one of the most influential district attorneys the city ever had. Of his deputies, one later became the district attorney (Norm Early, also of Welborn Sullivan) and another became district attorney and is Colorado's current Governor, Bill Ritter. More than a dozen attorneys under Dale went on to become judges in the state.

Keith, Brian and Patrick continue their father's legacy, with a commitment to pro bono representation and community service. Keith tells a great story about chairing a non-profit board for a gang-prevention/rescue organization run by a local minister. After 10 years of serving on the board, Rev. Leon Kelly confided to Keith that it was his father who prosecuted him as a teen, resulting in a jail sentence. Rev. Kelly had a true "jail cell conversion" and vowed to help kids escape gang life in Colorado. The best person he could find to lead the board was Dale Tooley's son, Keith.

Keith and his brothers have community service in their blood. Patrick served as Arapahoe County DA for eight years. One of Keith's pro bono long-term projects has been assisting the family of one of the victims of the Columbine shooting.

Like their father, all three sons are alumni of the University of Colorado Law School.

After years of construction, the City of Denver Justice Center recently opened. There has been a long debate over the naming of the plaza outside of the Center. Earlier this year it was announced that the plaza will be named The Dale Tooley Plaza, in honor of Keith, Patrick and Brian's father. A ceremony dedicating the plaza will take place on Wednesday, October 13th, 2010.

You can contact Keith and Brian Tooley at Welborn Sullivan (www.wsmtlaw.com) and Patrick at Dill and Dill (www.dillanddill.com).

Details on Dedication:

- October 13, 2010 at 10:30 am
- Denver Justice Center Campus, 14th and Elati Street, Denver
- RSVP to PWAdmin@denvergov.org or 720-865-8711 by 30 September 2010.

Links:

- City of Denver Proclamation naming The Dale Tooley Plaza
http://www.denvergov.org/Portals/81/documents/Proclamations/2009/Proclamation_2009_006.pdf
 - City Council President Jeannie Robb announcing the naming of the Plaza
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8KbGLjCeJ5I>
 - Governor Bill Ritter commenting on Dale Tooley's Legacy **(Must Watch)**
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CBgesU159BQ>
 - Denver Justice Center FAQ
<http://www.denverjusticecenter.com/dale-tooley-plaza.html>
 - Google "Dale Tooley Denver" and read about the Dale Tooley Cancer Research Lab and The Justice Center.
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