



Auditor Kovack Wins Above and Beyond Award

For Immediate Release

Date: October 9, 2009

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The Medina County Auditor's Office is proud to announce that Auditor Michael E. Kovack received the prestigious state-wide "Above and Beyond Award" at Thursday evening's Empowering and Strengthening Ohio's People (ESOP) 2009 Gala Celebration. The event was held at the Crown Pointe Hotel in Cleveland.

Last year, after extensive research, Auditor Kovack partnered with ESOP to assist homeowners having difficulty with their mortgage payments in Medina County. That partnership has become the most effective form of assistance offered to homeowners in the county with people being referred to the Auditor's Office on a daily basis. Through his website, press releases and inserts in the county tax and local utility bills, Auditor Kovack has promoted the assistance available through the ESOP program. The success of the program has made Medina County a leader throughout the state in addressing the problem head-on.

Auditor Kovack said, "Quite frankly, I feel we should be giving ESOP an award. They have been the vehicle to offer assistance to hundreds of Medina County homeowners and we are tremendously proud to be affiliated with them. Kudos also to my staff who have really borne this burden. I am privileged to accept the award on their behalf."

The keynote address was delivered by Alyssa Katz, an investigative reporter known nationally for her reports on the subject of the subprime mortgage foreclosure fiasco. Video addresses by U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown, U.S. Representatives Marcy Kaptur (Ohio) and Maxine Waters (California) were highlights of the evening.

Since partnering with ESOP in December of 2008, over 600 families in Medina County have sought assistance facing their mortgage issues. For more information regarding the mortgage assistance program, contact 330-725-9137.