



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 21, 2010

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NJLRA STATEMENT ON THE INAUGURATION OF GOVERNOR CHRISTIE

Rayner expresses optimism, believes comprehensive bipartisan civil justice reform is possible

TRENTON, N.J. – Marcus Rayner, executive director of the New Jersey Lawsuit Reform Alliance, issued the following statement after attending the swearing-in of Christopher J. Christie as New Jersey’s Governor:

“I would like to congratulate Chris Christie as he assumes his new role as New Jersey’s governor. As a state, we are in dire need of innovative solutions to improve our business climate and spur economic growth. The Governor’s inclusion of Senate President Steven Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Shelia Oliver is critical to advancing cost-neutral tort reform remedies to address this situation.

“New Jersey cannot recover from this recession without sound policies that support job growth. With limited resources to fund tax breaks or business incentives, legal reform offers policymakers in Trenton a fiscal-friendly policy change that can send a very strong message to employers all across the nation: New Jersey is once again open for business.

“As we look toward the 214th Legislature with a fresh administration and legislative leadership, we are optimistic that real civil justice reform is possible. As a candidate, Governor Christie included tort reform in his economic development plan. He expressed interest in reforming the law to limit the ability of many out-of-state plaintiffs to sue in New Jersey’s courts, discourage frivolous class-action litigation, and enhance the integrity of scientific evidence admitted in our courts. We look forward to working with the Governor’s office, Senate President Sweeney, and Speaker Oliver to achieve these reforms and build a stronger New Jersey.

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The New Jersey Lawsuit Reform Alliance (NJLRA) is a statewide, bipartisan group of businesses, individuals and organizations committed to improving the State’s civil justice system by advocating for legal reforms in the legislature and in the courts. NJLRA believes a balanced civil justice system is critical to ensuring fair and open courts, maintaining and attracting jobs and fostering economic growth in New Jersey. NJLRA is the only organization in New Jersey dedicated exclusively to civil justice reform.