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CONTACTS:
Carol E. Tracy
Women's Law Project
215-928-9801

Abbe F. Fletman
Wolf, Block, Schorr and
Solis-Cohen LLP
215-977-2478

**AUGUSTA IS NOT AN ISOLATED INSTANCE OF DISCRIMINATION
LOCAL WOMEN FILE COMPLAINT AGAINST GOLF CLUB**

Women's Law Project Challenges "Grass Ceiling" For Second Time

PHILADELPHIA, PA. -- A complaint of gender discrimination against Coatesville Country Club has been filed with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission. Complainants Joyce Pillets, Judy Uhrich and Janet Stewart allege that Coatesville Country Club discriminates against women by denying them the full benefits and privileges of membership, including voting rights, and access to the golf course. The announcement of the filing of the complaint to the membership has resulted in harassment and terroristic threats against two of the complainants.

"The drama being played out at Augusta National Golf Club in Atlanta, which admits no women as members, is played out on a daily basis on golf courses across the country," said Carol Tracy, Executive Director of the Women's Law Project. "Although some clubs have dropped the archaic rules limiting the membership rights of women, others, like Augusta and Coatesville, rigidly insist on maintaining women as second-class citizens," added Terry Fromson, Women's Law Project managing attorney and counsel to the Coatesville complainants.

This is the second time that Wolf Block and the Women's Law Project have teamed up to challenge the "grass ceiling." In 1997, Meadowlands Country Club in Montgomery County was the target of a lawsuit that settled in 1999. That settlement accorded women full membership rights, including a vote and seats on the governing board, and created a spousal membership category that gives spouses equal access to the tees at all times for a reasonable additional fee. "It was hoped that other clubs would voluntarily follow Meadowlands' lead," stated Abbe Fletman, the Wolf Block partner in both cases.

While Coatesville started down the road of improving access to the greens for women by creating a golf membership in 1998 that nominally gave women equal access, the women who purchased the membership found themselves paying more but not getting equivalent additional access. They were still unable to play on many weekend days because men's-only tournaments fully occupied the fairways. In addition, women continued to be excluded from the men's grille and denied a vote. Since that time, the membership has become more expensive, especially for those joining the club for the first time, with no increase in access to women.

The complainants have approached the club seeking a voluntary change in its membership policies. While the club has opened the grille to both sexes in response to the women's entreaties, the club has refused to give all women a vote and to provide equal access to the golf course.

The complainants are represented by Abbe F. Fletman of Wolf, Block, Schorr and Solis-Cohen LLP and Terry L. Fromson of the Women's Law Project.

The Women's Law Project is a public interest law center which has fought for legal and economic equality for women and their families since 1974. Wolf, Block, Schorr and Solis-Cohen LLP is a 225-attorney full-service law firm with offices in Philadelphia, Camden, Harrisburg, Norristown, Wilmington, and New York.

Press statements of complainants are attached.

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