



Constitutional Rights  
Foundation

*Educating Tomorrow's Citizens*

**For Immediate Release**

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**CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION NAMES MICHAEL A. LAWSON  
AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
Skadden Arps Partner Takes Helm at Leading Civic Education Organization**

**Los Angeles, October 5, 2009** – The Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) has selected Michael Lawson to be its new Chairman for a term of two years. Lawson assumes the position effective January 2010.

Lawson succeeds Joseph Calabrese, who has served the last two years as Chair of CRF's Board. Calabrese, a partner at the law firm of O'Melveny & Myers LLP, commented:

***"CRF will be in excellent hands under Michael's leadership. He brings a wealth of experience to the role of expanding CRF's status as a leader in civic education."***

Lawson joined the CRF Board in 2003 and has served on the Executive Committee as well as numerous other Board committees and activities, including the Annual Spring Dinner Committee. Upon his selection, he stated:

***"I am honored to have this tremendous opportunity to serve as the CRF Chairman and look forward to contributing to the success of this outstanding organization."***

Lawson is the leader of the Executive Compensation and Benefits Group in the Los Angeles office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom. He works on all facets of executive compensation and benefits matters. In that capacity, he regularly advises boards of trustees of pension and benefit funds and boards of directors of financial institutions and companies sponsoring pension plans concerning their fiduciary responsibilities, conflicts of interest and other statutory duties under state and federal laws.

Lawson received a Bachelor of Arts from Loyola University in Los Angeles in 1975, and his JD from Harvard Law School in 1978. He has been admitted to practice law in New York, the District of Columbia and California. He is a member of the Langston Bar Association and Los

Angeles County Bar Association where he chairs the Diversity Committee. In addition to his work with CRF, he is also on the Board of Directors of Advancement Project, Los Angeles and the Music Center. He is consistently recognized by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers in Business*.

Constitutional Rights Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan education organization. It seeks to instill in our nation's youth a deeper understanding of citizenship through values expressed in our Constitution and its Bill of Rights. Each year, CRF helps educate over one million young people to become active and responsible participants in our society with a variety of programs including the well-known Mock Trial and History Day programs.

For more information about CRF please refer to our website at [www.crf-usa.org](http://www.crf-usa.org)

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