



Memorandum

To: Members of the Troy City Council
From: Lori Grigg Bluhm, City Attorney
Allan T. Motzny, Assistant City Attorney
Date: April 16, 2008
Subject: Law Day 2008

In "Henry VI," Shakespeare wrote "let's kill all the lawyers." This quote has been misused on a regular basis to criticize either attorneys or the legal system. However, a close reading of this passage reveals that even back in Shakespeare's time, there was a need for the order that results from the rule of law. Without it, there is chaos. With it, there is the ability to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the members of the community.

In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed the first Law Day a "day of national dedication to the principle of government under law." The theme selected by the American Bar Association for the 50th anniversary of Law Day is "The Rule of Law: Foundation for Communities of Opportunity and Equity." Law Day 2008 provides an opportunity for us to examine the rule of law, as well as our role in its sustainability. In addition, we can also examine how the law protects democracy, opportunity, and equity for all.

Part of our departmental mission is to educate the City officials, board and committee members, employees, and the general public. In furtherance of this goal, our office has actively participated in an annual Law Day Program for the past several years. This year, with the assistance of the Community Affairs Department and the 52-4 judicial district court judges and staff members, we have created a mock trial video which is based on the story of the "Boy Who Cried Wolf."

The video premiere will be on Wednesday, April 30, from 8:30 to 10:30 am in the Law Library, where we will be providing refreshments. We encourage you all to attend. We also encourage you to visit our Law Day web page, located at <http://www.troymi.gov/law/lawday2008>.

We are also hopeful that City Council will adopt the attached proclamation for Law Day 2008. As always, if you have any questions, please let us know.

LAW DAY PROCLAMATION
May 1, 2008

WHEREAS, In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower established Law Day as a day of national dedication to the principles of government under law, and whereas 2008 represents the 50th anniversary year; and

WHEREAS, The Law Day 2008 anniversary theme is “The Rule of Law: Foundation for Communities of Opportunity and Equity,” which encourages us all to examine the rule of law, our role in its sustainability, and its role in protecting our communities, our democracy, opportunity, equity, and all that is most precious to us; and

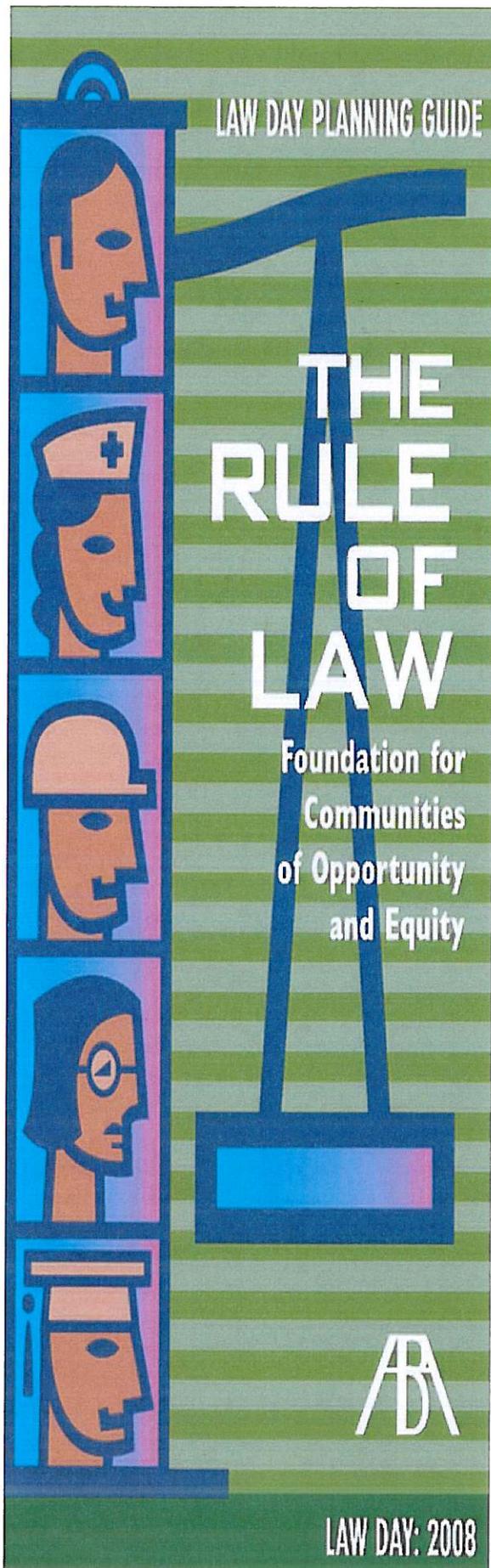
WHEREAS, This country was founded upon the principle that voluntary adherence to the rule of law expands, rather than limits the opportunities for freedom; and

WHEREAS, A viable democracy requires understanding of the nature and basis of our freedoms and recognition of the individual responsibilities which those freedoms impose.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Troy proclaims Thursday, May 1, 2008 as Law Day. We urge the citizens, schools, businesses, and media to use this occasion to dedicate ourselves to preserve and strengthen the rule of law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of Troy encourages citizens to take advantage of the educational opportunities and information provided as part of the Troy City Attorney’s Office 2008 Law Day Program, including the video presentation embodying this year’s Law Day theme, “The Rule of Law, Foundation for Communities of Opportunity and Equity.”

Signed this 21st day of April 2008.



Please join us on Wednesday, April 28, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the City Attorney's Office for a Law Day Brunch.

The City Attorney's Office will cover all costs of the brunch, however, we are accepting donations for Care House.

You are also invited to preview the premiere showing of "The City of Sheepfold v Joey Wolfcryer", a mock trial based on the fable "The Boy Who Cried Wolf", starring the staff of the City of Troy City Attorneys Office and the Staff of the 52-4 District Court.

The Trial may also be seen on the City of Troy website as well as WTROY Cable. Please check the City Attorney's Office web page at www.troymi.gov for specific dates and times.



CARE House

The Home of the Child Abuse and Neglect Council of Oakland County

The CAO will again be accepting donations for CARE HOUSE. Cash or check donations as well as donations of diapers, juice boxes, etc... will be appreciated. Please keep the children in mind and donate to this cause. See Www.carehouse.org for additional donation suggestions.

The Law Day Quiz will be available and a prize will be awarded to the winner.

*CARE House is a non profit organization that provides services to children who are victims of abuse.