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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WOMEN'S BAR FOUNDATION PROMOTES RACHEL B. BISCARDI TO DIRECTOR OF PRO BONO PROJECTS

BOSTON, MA – August 3, 2011 - The Women's Bar Foundation (WBF) is pleased to announce that Rachel B. Biscardi has been named the Director of *Pro Bono* Projects for the WBF. This newly-created position will enable Ms. Biscardi to oversee all five of the WBF Pro Bono Projects, including the Family Law Project, the Framingham Project for Incarcerated Women, the Elder Law Project, the Hampden Housing Court Project, and the Women's Lunch Place Project.

"Rachel's promotion will not only recognize the tremendous dedication she has shown to the WBF, but will also allow the WBF to expand the scope of the vital legal services it provides" says Mary Jo Johnson, President of the WBF. Ms. Biscardi began working with the WBF four years ago as the Supervising Attorney for the Family Law Project and was most recently the Director of the Family Law Project. In that latter role, Ms. Biscardi has been recruiting, training, and mentoring attorneys so they can represent low-income victims of domestic violence, *pro bono*, in the Probate and Family Court.

She gained further prominence in the legal community as the Women's Bar Association's representative on the Legislative Task Force on Alimony. Ms. Biscardi was a drafter of the Alimony Reform Act of 2011 that was recently, and unanimously, approved by the Senate and the House. Representative Fernandes, who co-chaired the Task Force, said that Ms. Biscardi was the "conscience of the committee."

Prior to joining the WBF, Ms. Biscardi worked at Legal Assistance Corporation of Central Massachusetts, the Essex County District Attorney's Office, and clerked in the Probate and Family Court. Ms. Biscardi is a graduate of Boston University School of Law.

Ms. Biscardi is also the Co-Chair of the Boston Bar Association's Continuing Legal Education committee, the Domestic and Sexual Violence Coalition and a member of the Family Law Steering Committee. Ms. Biscardi is also an active member of the Family Law Task Force which is comprised of legal service attorneys from across the state that practice family law for low-income victims of domestic violence.

In 2011, Rachel received the Certificate of Service from the Women's Bar Association, the WBF's sister organization, for outstanding service to the organization. She has appeared on numerous newscasts including Chronicle, the Emily Rooney Show, Public Radio, and in the Huffington Post. Her work has also been discussed in the Boston Herald, Boston Globe, and Cape Cod Times.

About the Women's Bar Foundation

Established as a 501(c)(3) organization in 1993 by the Women's Bar Association, the WBF's founding mission is to establish an equitable legal system, to promote social and economic equity for women, and to meet the legal needs of women and their children through an array of *pro bono* services. To date, the WBF has served more than a thousand indigent and low-income battered women, homeless women, incarcerated women, and elderly women and men. For more information, visit www.womensbar.org.