

Boca Raton News

25 CENTS

ALSO SERVING DELRAY BEACH

50TH YEAR/ISSUE 125

FRIDAY/SATURDAY, MAY 26-27, 2006

2 SECTIONS/48 PAGES

Elder advocate award given

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Howard S. Krooks, Esq. was the recent recipient of the 2006 Outstanding Achievement Award from the NY Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA), for advocacy work he performed prior to and since relocating to Florida in September 2005. Now a partner in the law firm of Elder Law Associates, P.A., with offices in Boca Raton, Aventura, West Palm Beach, and Weston, he remains Of Counsel to Littman Krooks LLP in New York.

"I am proud to have received this distinguished award," Krooks said. "I look forward to bringing the expertise in advocacy work that I gained in New York to Florida's elderly population and people with disabilities." As a member of the Joint Public Policy Task Force of the Florida Bar Association Elder Law Section and the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys Krooks is part of a group of attorneys currently engaged in an ongoing dialogue with state legislators and the Florida Department of Children and Families to protect the rights of the state's most vulnerable citizens.

The 2006 Outstanding



Howard S. Krooks, Esq.

Achievement Award was presented to Krooks during the Capital Ideas in Elder Law 2006 NAELA Symposium, held in Washington, D.C. from April 20-23, 2006. Krooks was recognized for serving as Co-Chair of a Special Committee on Medicaid Legislation formed by the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) Elder Law Section to oppose New York Governor George Pataki's 2004, 2005 and 2006 budget bills con-

taining numerous restrictive Medicaid eligibility provisions that, if enacted, would severely impact the frail elderly and disabled populations. He was also recognized for serving as Co-Chair of the NYSBA Elder Law Section Compact Working Group, which is receiving national attention for developing alternative methods of financing long-term care.

Krooks is a Past Chair of the Elder Law Section of NYSBA. He is certified as an Elder Law Attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation and is a member of the NAELA Board of Directors. He served as Chair of a Special Committee created by the NYSBA Elder Law Section to address the Statewide Commission on Fiduciary Appointments formed by Chief Justice Judith Kaye. He is also AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, the highest rating awarded an attorney.

Since moving to Florida Krooks has co-authored the *Snowbird News* column of *The Elder Law Attorney*, the NYSBA Elder Law Section's quarterly publication. He also writes a monthly column on elder law in the *Parklander*, a local community magazine distributed in Krooks' hometown of Parkland.