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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A COMMUNITY VICTORY

*After a 2-year struggle and hundreds of hours of pro bono support ,
a local non-profit achieves justice from the IRS*

Washington D.C.–July 17, 2007 Thanks to the hundreds of hours of pro bono work by Dickstein Shapiro LLP attorneys, local non-profit Bread for the City (BFC) has \$50,000 in additional funds to spend on food & clothing, legal, medical, and social services for vulnerable DC residents.

In May 2003, BFC discovered that its payroll company, FirstPay Inc., had embezzled approximately \$137,000 from its bank account and, according to media reports, \$11 million from more than 250 organizations. This theft threatened to undermine Bread for the City's ability to fully carry out its mission to feed the hungry, clothe the poor, care for the uninsured, and otherwise advocate for needy residents in Washington, DC. Over several years, and with direct and adverse impact to the people BFC serves, BFC paid more than \$90,000 to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service in an effort to re-pay the debt caused by the embezzlement.

In 2005, Dickstein Shapiro partner Lawrence Garr took on the case as pro bono counsel for Bread for the City. After two years of hard work by Mr. Garr and other members of the firm, the IRS Office of Appeals reversed course and required BFC to pay only \$50 of the \$50,000 balance it owed the IRS.

"Dickstein Shapiro has been heroic in its pursuit of justice for Bread for the City," stated George Jones, Bread for the City Executive Director. "The attorneys were relentless in persuading the IRS to recognize BFC's position as a victim of embezzlement and a provider of crucial services in the DC community, and we are relieved and grateful for the result."

"This matter has been as rewarding to Dickstein Shapiro as it has to Bread for the City," said Mr. Garr. "I am pleased that my partner Paul Taskier, a BFC Board Member, called on me in 2005 and that we, with the support and assistance of Nina Olson, the National Taxpayer Advocate, and Congressman Jim Ramstad (R-Minn.) were able to help BFC achieve a measure of justice."

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This victory is only one of the many successes that Bread for the City and Dickstein Shapiro have enjoyed throughout a 10-year relationship. In addition to providing hundreds of volunteer hours, each year Dickstein Shapiro supports Bread for the City's Holiday Helpings Program, which provides needy DC residents with holiday meals. Last year alone, Dickstein Shapiro staff and attorneys donated more than \$140,000 to this important effort.

Bread for the City is a private, non-profit organization that provides free services including food, clothing, medical care, legal assistance and social services for over 10,000 vulnerable DC residents each month.

Dickstein Shapiro, founded in 1953, is a multi-service law firm with more than 400 attorneys in Washington, DC, New York, and Los Angeles. Dickstein Shapiro's core practice groups—Antitrust & Dispute Resolution, Business & Securities Law, Corporate & Finance, Energy, Government Law & Strategy, Insurance Coverage, and Intellectual Property—involve the firm in virtually every major form of counseling, litigation, and advocacy. For additional information, please visit dicksteinshapiro.com.

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If you'd like more information about this issue, or to schedule an interview or tour of BFC's facilities in Northwest and Southeast Washington, please contact Adrienne Ammerman at 202-386-7609 (work) or 202-380-7848 (cell), or email Adrienne at aammerman@breadforthecity.org.

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