2013 Hall of Fame Inductee

Sheldon H. Roodman

Class of 1959

Following graduation from University City High School in 1959, Sheldon "Shel" Howard Roodman received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor and turned down Harvard Law School to return to St. Louis to earn

his Juris Doctorate from Washington University Law School.

After serving in corporation law, he began his 30-year career in 1977 with the Legal Assistance Foundation (LAF) of Metropolitan Chicago, where he ultimately served as executive director of the \$13 million organization with more than 100 lawyers and legal professionals providing free legal services in civil



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matter for the underserved residents. A sampling of legal projects he helped to create and sustain include LAF's Legal Center for Immigrants, its Children's Law Project, Home Ownership Preservation Project, and the Veteran's Law Project.

He litigated and unanimously won the U.S. Supreme Court Quern v. Jordan case dealing with the rights of aged, blind and disabled welfare persons which clarified the scope and application of the 11th U.S. Constitutional Amendment.

Among his numerous recognitions, Roodman received the 2007 Justice John Paul Stevens Award, Chicago Public Interest Law Initiative's Distinguished Public Service award and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the president of the Legal Services Corporation National Office and Washington University Law School established the Sheldon Roodman Summer Fellowship. Most recently, Roodman received the 2012 Washington University Law School Distinguished Alumni Award.