



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES; BROWN RUDNICK CO-HOST A BREAKFAST CONVERSATION WITH JUSTICE ALBIE SACHS AND VANESSA SEPTEMBER

Justice Sachs: "Convert pain of the past into hope of the future."

Boston, MA, January 24, 2006 – On January 17, Facing History and Ourselves and Brown Rudnick presented a community-wide conversation with **South African Constitutional Court Justice Albie Sachs**, the human rights activist world-recognized for his role in creating South Africa's new constitution.

The event began with Al Wallis, Executive Director of the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest, welcoming guests and providing background on the longstanding relationship between Facing History and Brown Rudnick. After opening remarks by Margot Stern Strom, Executive Director and President of the Facing History and Ourselves National Foundation, Justice Sachs addressed a crowd of approximately 80 guests. He and his life partner, Vanessa September, shared their perspective on South Africa's emerging democracy following the fall of apartheid. They also provided a presentation on the art and architecture in the new courthouse in Johannesburg, which is built on the site of the Old Fort Prison.

After the presentation at Brown Rudnick, Justice Sachs and Vanessa September continued on their six-city U.S. tour as part of the *Community Conversations* speaker series sponsored by Facing History and Ourselves and The Allstate Foundation.

Appointed by President Nelson Mandela in 1994, Justice Sachs is a member of the South African Constitutional Court. His life partner, Vanessa September, is an architect working on urban rebuilding. Justice Sachs has played an active role in the creation of South Africa's new constitution, and is the author of several books on human rights including *The Soft Vengeance of a Freedom Fighter*. In his most recent book, *The Free Diary of Albie Sachs*, Justice Sachs and Ms. September describe how South Africa is being healed and rebuilt.



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Brown Rudnick has provided pro bono legal representation to Facing History since 1976 and today serves as the organization's General Counsel (Pro Bono). The firm has assisted in every aspect of Facing History's growth and development on issues ranging from employment, employment benefits, contract negotiations, intellectual property, real estate, corporate governance, and dispute resolution. The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation also provides grant funds to Facing History to support its educational mission.

About Facing History and Ourselves

Facing History and Ourselves is an international educational and professional development organization whose mission is to engage students of diverse backgrounds in an examination of racism, prejudice, and antisemitism in order to promote the development of a more humane and informed citizenry. By studying the historical development lessons of the Holocaust and other examples of genocide, students make the essential connection between history and the moral choices they confront in their own lives. For more information, please visit www.facinghistory.org.

About Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP

Brown Rudnick is a full-service, international law firm with offices in the United States and Europe. The firm's 200 attorneys provide representation across key areas of the law: Corporate & Securities, Corporate Finance, Intellectual Property, Project and Structured Finance, Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring, Energy, Government Law & Strategies, Health Care, Real Estate, Complex Litigation and Trusts & Estates. Combining a dedication to excellence with the implementation of sophisticated technologies, Brown Rudnick provides its clients with a breadth and depth of expertise uniquely suited to their legal needs. For more information, please visit www.brownrudnick.com.

The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest is a measure of the Firm's strong commitment to the community and serves as an umbrella entity encompassing the Firm's pro bono legal work, charitable giving, community involvement and public interest efforts. The Center supports the mission of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., which provides grants in support of improving inner-city education. For more information about the Center, please visit <http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com/>

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