



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

4/28/10

Contact: Roopa Purohit

(202) 347-9467 ext. 15

rpurohit@everybodywinsdc.org

Venable LLP Partner Karl Racine to present Keynote Address at Leadership Summit for Local Public School Students

WHO: Karl Racine, managing partner at Venable LLP

WHAT: Everybody Wins! DC Readers Are Leaders Leadership Summit

WHEN: 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Monday, May 3, 2010

WHERE: Venable LLP, 575 7th Street, NW, Washington DC 20004

Washington, D.C. (April 28, 2010) – Venable LLP will host Everybody Wins! DC (EW!DC) 4th Annual Readers Are Leaders Leadership Summit. Karl Racine, managing partner will be the keynote speaker. The event will honor more than 80 graduating District of Columbia public elementary school students on **Monday, May 3, 2010.**

The students are part of the EW!DC **Readers Are Leaders** program, a peer **mentoring initiative** that matches older students with younger students for one-on-one reading during the lunch hour. The program uses third through sixth grade students as Reading Mentors for K through second grade students. The Leadership Summit will honor 5th and 6th grade graduating students who take on leadership roles and act as mentors through Readers Are Leaders. This year the Readers Are Leaders program served a total of **552 students** in nine DC public schools and together, these students read nearly **8,000 books!**

Racine first joined Venable LLP in 1989 and then rejoined the firm in 2002 after serving in the DC Public Defenders office and as an associate White House counsel in the Clinton Administration. He was named one of "The 50 Most Influential Minority Leaders in America" by *The National Law Journal* and has more than 20 years of litigation experience.

“We are delighted that Karl will be speaking to our graduating students” explains Executive Director, Mary Salander. “He is a source of inspiration, having moved to the U.S. [from Haiti] as a child and attended DC public schools, many students can identify with him and his story. He is an example to our students of what you can do in life when you work hard and do well in school.”

This year EW!DC serves nearly 4,000 at-risk students in 32 Title I public elementary schools and is the largest children’s literacy and mentoring organization in the Washington Metropolitan Area. Everybody Wins! DC’s mission is to pair students with Reading Mentors to instill a love of reading and learning and foster a sense of self-esteem through three signature programs.

For more information, visit www.everybodywinsdc.org or call Roopa Purohit at 202-347-9467, ext. 15.

###