

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 11, 2009

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J STREET TO HONOR KOVNER AT NATIONAL GALA

Prominent attorney and J Street co-founder Victor A. Kovner to receive Pursuer of Peace Award at first annual conference this October

WASHINGTON—Victor A. Kovner will be recognized for his community leadership and contributions to peace when he is honored with J Street’s first annual Pursuer of Peace Award this fall.

The award will be presented at the Gala Dinner on October 27th as part of J Street’s first annual conference, “Driving Change, Securing Peace,” in Washington, DC.

“There is no one who better exemplifies the values and vision of J Street than Victor Kovner,” said Jeremy Ben-Ami, J Street’s Executive Director. “For decades, he has been a powerful leader in his community and in politics – respected in New York, Washington and nationally, as a leader both in the Jewish community and in politics and public service. He also has displayed a limitless passion for bringing peace and security to Israel and its neighbors. J Street couldn’t have a more appropriate honoree at its first Gala than Victor.”

Kovner, a partner in the national firm of Davis Wright Tremaine and a leader of the New York bar, is one of the nation’s foremost First Amendment lawyers. He served as Corporation Counsel for the City of New York and was a member and Chair of the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct. Kovner has also served as Secretary and Chair of both the Committee on the Judiciary and Committee on Communications Law of the New York City Bar Association. For more than thirty years, he has served as a member of the Board of the Fund for Modern Courts, and for the past three years as its Chair.

In addition to his many professional accomplishments, Kovner has been an officer of the New York Chapter of the American Jewish Committee, a member of the Board of Americans for Peace Now, and an active supporter of the New Israel Fund. He has also served as a former Chair of the Board of Planned Parenthood of New York City and as an eight-year member of the President’s Commission on White House Fellowships.

J Street’s first national conference, “Driving Change, Securing Peace”, will be held October 25th to 28th and will bring together dozens of organizations and over 1,000 individuals committed to peace and security for Israel and the Middle East. Conference attendees will include policy makers and academics, community leaders and netroots activists, and Israeli and Arab thinkers and leaders, all focused on promoting US diplomatic leadership to resolve the Arab-Israeli and Israeli-Palestinian conflicts. There will also be a special track for college students.

For information on press credentialing at the J Street Conference and Gala Dinner, please contact Amy Spitalnick at 202-248-5868 or amy@jstreet.org.

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