

For Immediate Release:

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Legal Momentum Honors Debra A. Cafaro of Ventas, Inc. for Breaking New Ground and Advancing Women's Rights

NEW YORK (April 27,2009)- **Legal Momentum**, the nation's oldest legal advocacy organization dedicated to advancing the rights of women and girls, announces Debra A. Cafaro as a recipient of its **2009 Aiming High Awards** recognizing remarkable women whose personal leadership has broken new ground for women in business.

Irasema Garza, president of Legal Momentum, says, "During her tenure with Ventas, Inc., Ms. Cafaro took a struggling company and transformed it into a market leader. Like all of the 2009 Aiming High honorees, she is a stellar example of how working women are having a positive impact in board rooms and on factory floors across the country, and adding to their companies' overall success as a result. It also drives home the importance of making sure that all workplaces are free from discrimination, so that women in all industries can achieve and succeed."

Ms. Cafaro has been integral to the success of Ventas, Inc., which was listed as the best domestic public real estate company for the five year period ending December 31, 2007. Ms. Cafaro joined Ventas in 1999 as Chief Executive Officer and President and was appointed Chairman of the Board in 2003. During her tenure, Ventas went from uncertain prospects to the top in its field of healthcare real estate investment trusts.

Ms. Cafaro has been recognized National Real Estate Investor Magazine as Outstanding Woman and by Real Estate Forum as a Woman of Influence.

Ms. Cafaro joined Ventas after working as a lawyer for many years in real estate, corporate and finance law. From 1988 to 1992 she taught law as an adjunct professor at Northwestern University Law School. Ms. Cafaro recently completed a three year term as Chair of the Visiting Committee at the University of Chicago Law School.

Ms. Cafaro will be honored at the **Aiming High, A Celebration of the Power of Women**, a luncheon on April 28th at the Grand Hilton in New York. The fundraiser, which brings together more than 700 advocates, professionals and supporters of women's rights, garners over \$1 million dollars in unrestricted funding for Legal Momentum's work to promote women's economic and personal security.

Other honorees include:

Carol Lavin Bernick, *Executive Chairman Alberto-Culver Company*

Bernice E. Lavin, *in memoriam, Co-Founder, Alberto-Culver Company*

Paula B. Pretlaw, *Senior Vice President, Capital Guardian Trust Company*

Amy W. Schulman, *Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Pfizer Inc.*

Margaret Maxwell Zagel, *National Managing Principal, Risk, Regulatory and Legal Affairs and General Counsel, Grant Thornton LLP*

Legal Momentum, formerly NOW Legal Defense Fund, debuted the Aiming High Awards in 2000 to recognize pioneering women, with the understanding that the success of the honorees – women who have made a significant impact in a wide array of industries-- brings the promise that

women's voices, views, and talents are becoming a permanent part of our nation's corporate culture.

Aiming High, A Celebration of the Power of Women will begin at 11:15 on April 28th in the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton New York. Sponsorship and ticket information is available at www.legalmomentum.org.

About Legal Momentum: Founded in 1970 as NOW Women's Legal Defense and Education Fund, Legal Momentum is the nation's oldest legal advocacy organization dedicated to advancing the rights of women and girls. www.legalmomentum.org