

Oathout Named to Freedom House Board of Trustees

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Monica A. Fitzgerald

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Monica Oathout, a partner in the Houston office of the law firm Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP, has joined the Board of Trustees of the democracy organization Freedom House, based in Washington, D.C. She is the only member of the board from the State of Texas.

A nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advancing the cause of freedom and democracy around the world, Freedom House was founded in 1941 by Eleanor Roosevelt and former Republican presidential nominee Wendell Wilkie to counter American isolationism during the rise of fascism. Freedom House monitors, strengthens, and defends democracy worldwide through research, advocacy, and programs that support frontline activists. It is a leader in identifying threats to civil liberties and political rights.

Oathout has been recognized by Chambers and Partners and Best Lawyers as a Leading Lawyer in the area of employment law. Her clients range from small, single-office employers to large, multi-national corporations. She has written and lectured on LGBTQ rights, religious liberties, workplace civility and sexual harassment liability, among many other employment-related topics.

From 2009 to 2011, Oathout served as president of Ally Law, an association of over 60 independent law firms that spans the globe. This position involved travel throughout the United States and all over the world to Europe, Latin America and Asia. She also volunteers with the Houston Food Bank, the Children's Museum of Houston, Dress for Success, the Star of Hope Homeless Shelter, Medical Bridges, the Children's Assessment Center, Texas Children's Hospital and Habitat for Humanity. Oathout received the Houston Bar Association's President's Award in 2000 for arranging for members of the Houston Bar Association to finance and build a house through Habitat for Humanity.

About Vorys: Vorys was established in 1909 and has grown to be one of the largest Ohio-based law firms with nearly 375 attorneys in seven offices in Columbus, Cincinnati, Cleveland and Akron, Ohio; Washington, D.C.; Houston, Texas; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Vorys currently ranks as one of the 200 largest law firms in the United States

according to *American Lawyer* magazine.

