



Nancy J. Diehl

You Know What They Say

Your letters, notes, e-mails, and phone calls of congratulations and best wishes have been overwhelming. You have humbled me and made me so thankful for all the blessings I have in my life. And, many of you offered to do whatever you could to assist me this year. Your spirit of goodwill and generosity has touched my heart.

Well, I do need your help—but not *only* yours. I'll get right to the point. As you know, our Access to Justice Campaign raises money for low-income members of our society who cannot afford an attorney for necessary civil legal services. We need to raise more money! The need far outweighs our resources.

I know that you are pressed from all sides to give all year and particularly during the holiday season. We all have our special gifts to wrap and favorite charities to support. But, I believe as lawyers we must stand tall and embrace the spirit of the season with our generosity to the most vulnerable in our society. Robert F. Kennedy said, "The poor man looks upon the law as an enemy, not as a friend. For him the law is always taking something away." We can change this perception by working to provide adequate legal services to all our citizens.

It's my wish this holiday season that every lawyer give something to ATJ—even if it is a token amount. If every lawyer gives to ATJ,

it will make a huge statement about what kind of lawyers we are in Michigan. Someone once said, "Money talks...but all mine ever says is goodbye." So, just wave and send that extra, unplanned holiday gift to ATJ. You know what they say—it's better to give than to receive. I say that giving is getting. What, after all, is more rewarding than the good feeling you get when you have helped someone.

Please use the form on page 14 or call 800-968-1442 and ask for Lesa Smith (ext. 6307) or Jennifer Williams (ext. 6421) to make your Access to Justice gift. ♦