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**THURGOOD MARSHALL COLLEGE FUND HONORS MARYLAND BUSINESS
AND COMMUNITY LEADERS WITH *AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE***

Baltimore, MD – April 2, 2009 - The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCf) today honored five business and community leaders of the Baltimore-Washington region during its 2nd Annual *Awards of Excellence* Reception.

The Award acknowledges individuals who exemplify professional and civic excellence, and share Justice Thurgood Marshall's concern for civil rights and his commitment to social justice and education.

"Justice Marshall was a native of Baltimore, and his commitment to education began as a young lawyer fighting for black school teachers in the state," said Dwayne Ashley, President and CEO of TMCf. "The community leaders we honor with the *Awards of Excellence* inspire our youth and serve as role models for young men and women who are focused on reaching their full potential."

The 2nd Annual *Awards of Excellence* - Baltimore honorees are:

- **Luis Borunda** – President & CEO, US Hispanic Youth Entrepreneur Education
- **Michael E. Cryor** – President, The Cryor Group, LLC and Former Chair, Maryland Democratic Party
- **Oliver Morse, J.S.D.** – Professor Emeritus, Howard University School of Law
- **William R. Roberts** – President, Verizon, Maryland & Washington, DC
- **June Streckfus** – Executive Director, Maryland Business Roundtable for Education

The reception was held at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of African American History & Culture in Baltimore. The University of Maryland-Eastern Shore Gospel Choir and Jazz Ensemble provided inspiring musical entertainment. Lead sponsors were: McGuireWoods, Constellation Energy, and Verizon.

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About the Thurgood Marshall College Fund:

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund, Inc., named for the late U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice, was established in 1987 and represents 47 public Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and 6 Law Schools located in 22 states with a population of well over 235,000 students. It is the only national organization of its type that provides merit-based scholarships and programmatic support to students attending the nation's public HBCUs. Over the last 21 years, TMCf has awarded more than \$91 million in scholarships and programmatic and capacity support, enabling more than 7,500 students to attend public HBCU. TMCf also provides internship programs and joins corporate and foundation partners in providing leadership training and support to students preparing for undergraduate and professional schools. TMCf is a 501(c) 3, tax-exempt organization.

Second Annual Awards of Excellence – Baltimore Committee Headquarters

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