



**Contact:**  
Matthew Burnett, Director  
Immigration Advocates Network  
P: (212) 760-2554, ext. 481  
E: [mburnett@immigrationadvocates.org](mailto:mburnett@immigrationadvocates.org)

**For Immediate Release**

## **CitizenshipWorks Winner for Best Law Site in the 16th Annual Webby Awards**

**New York – May 1, 2012** –The 16th Annual Webby Awards today named CitizenshipWorks as Best Law Site of the year. CitizenshipWorks also won the Webby People's Voice Award in the Law category, thanks to votes from the online community.

CitizenshipWorks provides free, easy-to-use online tools in both English and Spanish to help individuals answer questions about their eligibility for naturalization, better understand the naturalization process and how to prepare for the naturalization tests, and find free or low-cost legal help with their naturalization application. A recently launched text messaging campaign allows users to text "citizenship" ("ciudadania" in Spanish) to 877877 to find the location and contact information for nearby organizations providing naturalization application assistance. An estimated 8 million legal permanent residents across the United States are eligible to become U.S. citizens, but many don't understand the process and can't afford to hire a lawyer.

CitizenshipWorks was developed by the Immigration Advocates Network, a collaborative effort of leading immigrants' rights organizations, the Immigrant Legal Resource Center, national experts on the naturalization process, and Pro Bono Net, a national nonprofit that works to increase access to justice through innovative uses of technology. It was developed with support from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation and The Grove Foundation.

CitizenshipWorks will be honored at a star-studded ceremony at The Hammerstein Ballroom in New York on Monday, May 21, at 5:30 p.m. A full list of both Webby Awards and People's Voice Awards winners can be found at <http://wbby.co/winners>

"We are thrilled to be named the winner of both the Best Law Site and the People's Voice Award," said Matthew Burnett, Director of the Immigration Advocates Network. "Millions of lawful permanent residents want to become citizens so they can meaningfully participate in our democracy. CitizenshipWorks helps demystify the process and get them started on the path towards citizenship."

"The Webby Awards honors the very best of the Internet," said David-Michel Davies, Executive Director of the Webby Awards. "CitizenshipWorks' achievement is a testament to the skill, ingenuity and vision of its creators."

Hailed as the "Internet's highest honor" by The New York Times, The Webby Awards is the leading international award honoring excellence on the Internet, including websites, interactive advertising & media, online film & video, and mobile & apps. The Webby Awards is presented by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences, a 750-person judging academy whose members include Martha Stewart, Darren Aronofsky, R/GA's Chief Bob Greenberg, David Bowie, Arianna Huffington and Twitter's Biz Stone. The 16th Annual Webby Awards received nearly 10,000 entries from over 60 countries and all 50 US states.

### **About the Immigration Advocates Network**

The Immigration Advocates Network (IAN) is a collaborative effort of leading immigrants' rights organizations designed to increase access to justice for low-income immigrants and strengthen the capacity of organizations serving them. IAN promotes more effective and efficient communication, collaboration, and services among immigration advocates and organizations by providing free, easily accessible and comprehensive online resources and tools. IAN's partners include the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project, American Bar Association Commission on Immigration, American Immigration Council, American Immigration Lawyers Association, ASISTA, Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Immigrant Legal Resource Center, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, National Immigration Law Center, National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, Pro Bono Net, and the Advocates for Human Rights. To learn more, visit [www.immigrationadvocates.org](http://www.immigrationadvocates.org).

### **About the Immigrant Legal Resource Center**

The Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) is a non-profit national resource center that provides legal trainings, educational materials, and advocacy to advance immigrant rights. Founded in 1979, the mission of the ILRC is to work with and educate immigrants, community organizations, and the legal sector to continue to build a democratic society that values diversity and the rights of all people. To learn more, visit [www.ilrc.org](http://www.ilrc.org).

### **About Pro Bono Net**

Pro Bono Net ([www.probono.net](http://www.probono.net)) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing access to justice through innovative uses of technology and increased volunteer lawyer participation. Pro Bono Net uses innovative web-based platforms -- [www.probono.net](http://www.probono.net), [www.LawHelp.org](http://www.LawHelp.org) and [www.LawHelpInteractive.org](http://www.LawHelpInteractive.org) -- to recruit and support volunteer lawyers and provide direct information and self-help tools to low-income communities. This marks the 6th consecutive year that Pro Bono Net and its network of partners have been nominated for the Webby Award for Best Law Site; LawHelp.org won in this category in 2007.

### **About The Webby Awards**

Hailed as the "Internet's highest honor" by the New York Times, The Webby Awards is the leading international award honoring excellence on the Internet, including Websites, interactive advertising & media, online film & video, and mobile & apps. Established in 1996, the 16th Annual Webby Awards received nearly 10,000 entries from all 50 states and over 60 countries worldwide. The Webby Awards is presented by The International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences.

###