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### AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY LAW PRACTICE

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# CHARLES F. PATTON MIDDLE SCHOOL in Kennett Square, PA and FATHER JUDGE HIGH SCHOOL in Northeast Philadelphia

## **Honored for Environmental Community Service through**

Region-Wide Collaboration Sponsored by Wawa, NBC 10 and Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP

Philadelphia, PA (April 22, 2011) – With more than 40 applications from the tri-state area, the two schools that received this year's Environmental Community Service Award demonstrated the profound difference they have made in their communities. Presented by Wawa, NBC 10, and the environmental law firm Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP (MGKF), the goal of the Environmental Community Service Award is to raise awareness of environmental concerns and to recognize middle and high schools in the Delaware Valley for their efforts in environmental service projects that enhance and improve the quality of life in their communities. Each winning school receives \$5,000 from the sponsors as well as a feature story on NBC 10.

The two winning schools are Charles F. Patton Middle School in Kennett Square, PA and Father Judge High School in Northeast Philadelphia. The judges are representatives from The Franklin Institute, the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center, New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection and Delaware's Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control that join designees from each sponsor -- Wawa, NBC 10 and MGKF. Robb Fox, managing partner of MGKF, said, "It was a very tough competition this year," and, therefore, harder for the judges to select.

The Charles F. Patton Middle School's winning program is part of the Patton Project conceived by Family and Consumer Science teachers, Betsy Ballard and Kimberly Hisler. The students built raised beds and a greenhouse outside the school and, after planting the beds, donated nearly 50 pounds of vegetables to the Chester County Food Bank. The needs of the Food Bank has grown 40 percent in the last year alone. Countywide, one in 10 people go without a meal on a daily basis. The project continues to support as many people as possible, with healthy, nutritious options.

Fox said the gardening program at Patton embodies community spirit. He told the students, "It's an all-around great environmental project from the gardening to the fact that you are helping to feed so many people with the food you are growing. This is really, really, special."

The winning high school is Father Judge High School. At this school, the students, led by teacher Nora Kasper, built a wind turbine which produces 500 watts of power. The turbine power illuminates a memorial that has been erected on the front lawn of the school to honor the graduates who lost their lives in service to others. Certainly combining education and community service, Father Judge's program is another excellent example of the outstanding work being done in schools. When Fox addressed these students, he said, "Renewable energy is our future and wind power is so important. This is an inventive and sustainable way to memorialize these key members of the school community."

Terry Ruggles, anchor at NBC-10 who has been the "face" of the station with this award for years. He said, "NBC is very conscious of this award and the schools we honor. I'm proud to be

part of it and that we are able to offer an incentive that just builds on itself. It's like we're paying it forward."

Fred Wood, Business Performance Manager of Wawa, shared his enthusiasm. "I think it's fantastic that we've been doing this for six years. Giving this award and recognizing the great work of Charles F. Patton Middle School and Father Judge High School demonstrates our commitment and pride in the communities where we have our stores."

"Each year we are impressed with the incredibly creative and resourceful programs developed and implemented by the students," Fox continued. "It's difficult being a judge because we have seen over 150 worthwhile efforts by students and faculty over these past years. Selecting the winners is never easy."

Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP concentrates its practice in environmental, energy and land use law and litigation. It represents clients ranging from Fortune 100 corporations to small, privately held enterprises, both in the Mid-Atlantic Region and on a national basis. Their commitment to education is manifested in the lawyers' participation in environmental programs outside the office.

Wawa, Inc., a privately held company, traces its roots back to 1803 as an iron foundry in New Jersey. Owner George Wood started a dairy processing plant in Wawa, PA, in 1902. The milk business was a success, due to its quality, cleanliness and "certified" process. In 1964, George's grandson Grahame Wood opened the first Wawa Food Market in Folsom, PA. Today the company operates more than 540 stores in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Wawa is known for its branded products including award-winning coffee and freshly prepared hoagies. Wawa consistently ranks among Forbes' top 200 privately held companies. "Wawa" is the Lenni-Lenape Indian word for flying goose.

NBC 10, one of 10 Owned & Operated NBC television stations, is located in Bala Cynwyd, Pa., a suburb of Philadelphia. Millions of viewers throughout Greater Philadelphia, Lehigh Valley, South Jersey and Delaware tune into NBC 10 everyday for the most up-to-date news, weather, sports, consumer, health and traffic reports. NBC 10's 5 p.m. news — "All That & More" — is the only fully interactive news program in the region. Viewers also tune in daily to watch the "The 10! Show" show, an upbeat, one-hour lifestyle and entertainment show featuring local, national and internationally known celebrities. The program airs live Monday through Friday at 11 a.m. Recognized as the No. 1 web site (www.nbc10.com) in the top 50 markets, NBC10.com received the prestigious National Edward R. Murrow Award.