



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 1, 2014

Executive Director Melissa A. Gertz, Esq., published in **Chicken Soup for the Soul: Recovering from Traumatic Brain Injuries**

Trenton, NJ – The Community Justice Center is thrilled to announce that its Executive Director has been selected to be published in the newest edition of *Chicken Soup for the Soul*. A book series generally focused on providing uplifting and inspiring messages, this edition, **Recovering from Traumatic Brain Injuries**, has a loftier goal, endeavoring to connect the civilian and military survivors, while simultaneously providing support for non-profits working in the field. Lee Woodruff, wife of ABC News anchor and TBI survivor Bob Woodruff, and co-founder of the Bob Woodruff Foundation, authored the Forward:

As so many of these wonderful stories illustrate, TBI's are so difficult, because unlike an obvious injury, the outside world doesn't know anything is wrong. Many of these stories have come more to the fore with the tremendous number of head injuries from the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The legacy of these wars will be the more than 360,000 service members who have received some form of a brain injury...I hope that this book not only helps all of the TBI patients and their families out there, but also raises awareness of the TBI issue in the civilian and military population. The next time you are frustrated by someone slowly counting out change in the grocery store line ahead of you, remember you may be standing behind a TBI survivor. Maybe even someone who raised his hand when his country asked him to go. There are millions of TBI survivors out there. And they are all the bravest, most resilient people I know.

Racing the Sunset tells the story of Ms. Gertz's rise from the tragedy of 2004. The book is available now, and publishers have graciously allowed the Community Justice Center to sell the book at \$15 at its events, with \$10 of the proceeds to benefit its TBI services. The remaining \$5 goes to the Bob Woodruff Foundation. Ms. Gertz is moved by the publisher's generosity, saying that "It's a win-win for everyone, especially survivors like myself, who feel like their voices are being heard and validated, and that their invisible wounds are a bit less invisible now."

The Community Justice Center is an innovative legal services non-profit, providing services to low-income veterans and others who are disabled. **It is the only organization of its kind in New Jersey** able to represent them before both the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Social Security Administration. For the homeless individual too disabled to work, a regular source of disability benefits results in **increased stability, permanent housing, and necessary medical insurance and treatment—simply too priceless to measure.**

For more information on the Community Justice Center, visit them online at www.nj-communityjusticecenter.org, friend them on Facebook at CJC Trenton, or contact info@nj-cjc.org or 609-218-5120. For more information on the Bob Woodruff Foundation, visit www.bobwoodrufffoundation.org.

Encouraging the Empowerment, Resiliency, and Rights of Those Struggling with Disabilities,
by Providing the Essential Ingredients of Legal Education, Outreach, Advocacy, and Representation.

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Chicken Soup
for the Soul®

Recovering
from Traumatic
Brain Injuries

101 Stories of Hope,
Healing, and Hard Work

Amy Newmark and
Dr. Carolyn Roy-Bornstein
Foreword by Lee Woodruff

