ATLANTA (January 12, 2001) – The Emory Public Interest Committee (EPIC) at Emory University School of Law will honor Randolph W. Thrower (AO) at its fifth annual EPIC Inspiration Awards on January 23, 2001. Mr. Thrower will receive the Lifetime Commitment to Public Service Award for his outstanding contributions to the public interest. The awards will be presented by Willis B. Hunt, Jr., U.S. District Court Judge and former chief justice of the Georgia Supreme Court.

Founded by Emory Law students in 1988, EPIC promotes awareness and increases understanding of public interest law, encourages and assists in employment of Emory law students in public interest positions and acknowledges the professional responsibility of lawyers and law students to make legal services more available.

Mr. Thrower received both his undergraduate and law degree from Emory University and was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree by the University in 1984. He joined Sutherland in 1936 and has practiced in the firm's Atlanta and Washington offices. Mr. Thrower works primarily in the area of federal taxation, including civil and criminal tax controversies, litigation, estate planning and administration, general corporate and individual tax-related matters.

In addition to serving as Chair of the Ethics Committee of the City of Atlanta from 1980 until 1992, Mr. Thrower is a past President of the American Bar Foundation and served for 10 years on its Executive Committee. In 1993, he received the American Bar Association Medal, the ABA's highest honor, for his extensive public, professional and government service. He has served as President of the Atlanta Bar Association, the Atlanta Lawyers Club and the Atlanta Legal Aid Society. Currently, Mr. Thrower is an Advisor to the ABA Council of the Fund for Justice and Education and Vice-Chair of the Pro Bono and Legal Aid Assistance Committee of the ABA Senior Lawyers Division.

His interest in education has included years of service as a member of the Board of Trustees of Emory University, Wesleyan College, Reinhardt College and Woodward Academy. During World War II he served first as a Special Agent of the F.B.I. and then overseas in Okinawa and the Philippines as a Captain in the United States Marine Corps.