

Date: 1/19/2005

CropLife America Recognizes Larry Ebner for Outstanding Appellate Advocacy



Croplife America, the national trade association for the plant science industry, recently honored D.C. partner [Larry Ebner](#) for his preeminent role in advocating, before appellate and trial courts across the country, federal preemption of product liability claims under FIFRA, the federal pesticide statute.

Following the Supreme Court's hearing in its first case on the subject, *Bates v. Dow AgroSciences*, No. 03-388, a reception was held at the U.S. Capitol. Doug Nelson, Croplife America's Executive Vice President and General Counsel, along with Jay Vroom, President and CEO, presented Larry with a framed copy

of the amicus curiae brief that he filed in *Bates* on behalf of CropLife America, along with a letter of appreciation for his 15 years of advocacy on this subject.

The letter stated in part, "It is fitting that CropLife America and your many friends and colleagues in the crop protection industry acknowledge your significant contribution, over many years, to developing, nurturing and defending the principle of FIFRA preemption. We wish to thank you for serving as a thoughtful and zealous steward of this important principle of FIFRA law."

Larry was also acknowledged in CropLife America's newsletter which described him as "the 'dean' of FIFRA pre-emption for many years." They added that "our presentation to him recognized his creating, nurturing and continuing the FIFRA pre-emption defense."

Larry, who heads MLA's Appellate Practice Group, thanked CropLife America for its vision and commitment in taking a strong stand on this important issue. CropLife America is one of the firm's longest continuous clients.