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Legal Services of Greater Miami Announces \$50,000 Gift from Ryder for The Julie Azuaje Legal Fellowship

MIAMI, FL – Ryder System, Inc. is helping to expand access to legal representation for people who cannot afford it, with a \$50,000 gift to Legal Services of Greater Miami in honor of Julie Azuaje, former general counsel for Ryder Dedicated Transportation Services, who passed away in 2021. Azuaje also served as first vice chair of the Legal Services Board of Directors and as a board member for almost 15 years. Through the Ryder Charitable Foundation, the gift funds The Julie Azuaje Legal Fellowship, preserving her legacy of social justice advocacy. Julie left her mark at Ryder and Legal Services of Greater Miami with her remarkable leadership and dedication, making a profound impact on both organizations.

“A self-described ‘advocate at heart’ Julie loved this organization,” said **Bob Fatovic, Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer for Ryder**. “Through this fellowship, and Legal Services’ continued dedication to equal justice for all, we can all continue to honor Julie’s leadership and service.”

The fellowship will provide opportunities for law students to work alongside Legal Services’ attorneys, who are tirelessly devoted to using the power of the law to promote social justice and represent those in our community who turn to Legal Services when they need help accessing housing, education, and healthcare. The donation will also support legal education and instill in the future generation of lawyers the value of social justice advocacy and pro bono service.

“Julie brought a special combination of knowledge, grace, and kindness, and her exemplary care and efforts were meaningful and appreciated,” said **Monica Vignes-Pitan, Legal Services Executive Director**. “We are truly grateful to Ryder for this thoughtful, generous gift in Julie’s memory, which will allow us to address the growing legal needs of low-income families at a time when the pandemic continues to threaten their financial stability. Our high-quality legal advocacy is made possible through the support of corporate leaders such as Ryder who place their trust in our ability to advance equal justice and build a stronger future for our community.”

For information on the Legal Services Fellowship Program, contact mviguespitan@legalservicesmiami.org.

About Legal Services of Greater Miami

Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. is the largest provider of broad-based civil legal services for the poor in Miami-Dade and Monroe and is recognized in the state and in the nation as a model legal services program. In any given year, Legal Services provides services which benefits almost 20,000 vulnerable members of our community who have

nowhere else to turn for help – women, children, seniors, veterans returning from combat, people with disabilities, low wage workers and the homeless--who have problems in the areas of tenants' rights, homeownership, health and income maintenance, employment, special education, tax and consumer rights. For more information, visit www.legalservicesmiami.org and connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#).

About Ryder

Ryder System, Inc. (NYSE: R) is a leading logistics and transportation company. It provides [supply chain](#), [dedicated transportation](#), and [fleet management](#) solutions, including full service [leasing](#), [rental](#), and [maintenance](#), [used vehicle sales](#), [professional drivers](#), [transportation services](#), [freight brokerage](#), [warehousing and distribution](#), [e-commerce fulfillment](#), and [last mile delivery](#) services, to some world's most-recognized brands. Ryder provides services throughout the United States, Mexico, Canada, and the United Kingdom. In addition, Ryder manages nearly 235,000 commercial vehicles and operates more than 300 warehouses encompassing approximately 64 million square feet. Ryder is regularly recognized for its industry-leading practices in third-party logistics, technology-driven innovations, commercial vehicle maintenance, environmentally friendly solutions, corporate social responsibility, world-class safety and security programs, military veteran recruitment initiatives, and the hiring of a diverse workforce. www.ryder.com

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