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## SCOTT C. GLOVSKY WINS CAOC "STREET FIGHTER OF THE YEAR" AWARD

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Every year, Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC) presents the "Street Fighter of the Year" award to a small practitioner of law who helped create a more just society by overcoming incredible odds and without regard to profit or personal benefit. This year's winner is Scott C. Glovsky of Law Offices of Scott Glovsky, located in Pasadena California.

"One of the greatest privileges of my tenure was to present these awards to my fellow attorneys," said outgoing CAOC President Don Ernst. "No matter how accomplished an attorney you are - recognition of your dedication and accomplishment by your peers is the greatest professional accolade you can achieve."

Mr. Glovsky won for his work on a case which exposed how insurance companies are systematically pressuring hospitals to discharge patients with severe, and often fatal, eating disorders (a summary is below).

"Sometimes we get consumed by the day-to-day struggles and the details of practicing law, forgetting to look at the bigger picture," said incoming CAOC President Christine Spagnoli. "But seeing what these attorneys have accomplished and what they've overcome is a real inspiration for our members. This is our annual reminder and a celebration of why we joined the legal profession."

Other award winners from this year include: Warren R. Paboojian, Consumer Attorney of the Year; R. Rex Parris, The Robert E. Cartwright Senior Award; Gary M. Paul, The Marvin E. Lewis Award; Elizabeth J. Cabraser, The Edward I. Pollock Award; Gerry Spence, Lifetime Achievement Award.

Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC) is a statewide organization of attorneys who represent plaintiffs and consumers who seek responsibility from wrongdoers. Its mission is to seek justice for all, preserve the right to trial by jury for all consumers, and uphold the honor and dignity of the legal profession and the highest standards of ethical conduct and integrity.

## Street Fighter of the Year Scott C. Glovsky Law Offices of Scott Glovsky Smith v. Doe Insurance Company

When Janell Smith was admitted to the hospital, she weighed 68 pounds and needed a feeding tube to keep her alive. She was 26 years old.

After three weeks of treatment for severe anorexia, her insurance company pulled the plug on her hospitalization. This was despite her "unlimited" hospital coverage for anorexia and the fact that she was too underweight for outpatient treatment. Five days after her discharge, she committed suicide.

Suicide is an all-too-common outcome for those suffering from anorexia, which has the highest fatality rate of any mental illness. One in ten anorexics die from their disease and up to 10 million women and girls are afflicted with eating disorders like anorexia. Despite the severity of this epidemic, insurance companies are systematically pressuring hospitals to discharge patients with severe, and often fatal, eating disorders.

The successful settlement of this case has allowed Janell's parents to continue their efforts fighting this deadly disease – they've courageously told their horror story through media outlets like Anderson Cooper 360, The Early Show and People Magazine in the hopes they could prevent someone else's child from suffering a similar fate.

Mr. Glovsky's hard work put insurance companies on notice that they can longer victimize these young women without suffering serious consequences.

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