

ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EMO awards the Hon. George A. Van Hoomissen for ecumenical service

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) will present the Hon. George A. Van Hoomissen with the “Rodney Page Ecumenical Service Award” on May 11, 2017, at its *Benefit Dinner & Awards Celebration*.

The Hon. George A. Van Hoomissen has throughout a distinguished career in public service demonstrated a profound commitment to justice and compassion for all. A native Oregonian, Van Hoomissen served as jurist for the Multnomah County Circuit Court, Oregon Court of Appeals and Oregon Supreme Court. Prior to that, he was elected to the Oregon Legislature as a state representative, chairing the House Judiciary Committee; he was then elected Multnomah County District Attorney.

Van Hoomissen was the first president of EMO’s board of directors, serving from 1974 to 1977. Under his leadership, the newly formed organization was strengthened by increasing denominational membership and launching new community ministry programs.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon’s *Benefit Dinner & Awards Celebration* is the single most important annual fundraiser for our vital ministries to the poor, the vulnerable, the hungry and the sick throughout the state of Oregon. Funds contributed by sponsors and guests enable us to serve those in need and to advocate on their behalf at the Oregon Legislature for a just, equitable and sustainable society. Each year we honor extraordinary individuals and organizations, such as Van Hommissen, whose courage, moral vision and commitment to action have contributed profoundly to making Oregon, and the world, a better place.

This year, the event will be held on May 11 at the Portland Hilton, 921 SW Sixth Ave. A reception and silent auction to benefit EMO’s ministries will be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m.; dinner, a live auction and the award presentations will begin at 6:30 p.m. Reservations, available at www.emoregon.org, are \$100 per person or \$1,000 per table of 10. For more information, contact Carla Starrett-Bigg at (503) 221-1054, ext. 275, or csbigg@emoregon.org.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon is a statewide association of Christian denominations, congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.