



119 Washington Ave. ♦ Albany, NY 12210
Phone 518.462.6831 ♦ Fax 518.462.6687
www.empirejustice.org

Empire Justice Center Honors Life of Louise Slaughter, Fierce Advocate for Justice, Women's Rights

The Empire Justice Center shares the shock and sadness of the Rochester community at the death of Congresswoman Louise Slaughter.

Her passion and commitment helped lift so many of the issues we all care so deeply about – from protection for victims and survivors of domestic violence, to her early and courageous support for those living with HIV/AIDS, to her push for consumer and homeowner protections and for efforts to end childhood lead poisoning.

Slaughter was an incredible stalwart on the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), of which she was a coauthor, from its original drafting in the 1990s to the contentious reauthorization brawl in 2013-14 in which she helped ensure its passage inclusive of protections for LGBTQ victims of domestic violence, immigrant survivors, and the indigenous community.

Empire Justice Center had the pleasure of working with Representative Slaughter's office on numerous projects over the years, and everyone who interacted with her was struck by her intelligence, her ability to recall interactions from years or decades before, and also her warmth and genuine engagement with advocates, constituents, and colleagues.

From the early days of her career in the Monroe County Legislature, to her days as a member of the New York State Assembly, and to her years as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Louise Slaughter remained a champion not only of the people she represented directly, but of the ideals of integrity in government, equal rights for women, and justice for the marginalized. Her advocacy and representation will be missed by the Rochester-area community, the state, and the nation.

###

Empire Justice Center is a statewide, multi-issue, multi-strategy, public interest law firm focused on changing the “systems” within which poor and low-income families live. Empire Justice protects and strengthens the legal rights of people in New York State who are poor, disabled or disenfranchised through: systems change advocacy, training and support to other advocates and organizations, and high quality direct civil legal representation. Empire Justice has offices in Albany, Rochester, Yonkers, White Plains and Central Islip on Long Island.