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**Advocates, Inc. Honors Krokidas & Bluestein  
and Attorney Maria Krokidas**

**FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS – (March 31, 2008)** – Advocates, Inc., a leading Massachusetts human services provider, announced today that Krokidas & Bluestein, LLP and its co-founder Maria Krokidas will be honored at the agency’s 2008 fundraising Gala, “Bringing Abilities to Light,” for their steadfast commitment to social justice for people with disabilities.

Each year at the Gala, Advocates Inc. honors those whose dedication and support have been extraordinarily meaningful to the agency in carrying out its mission.

“Maria and Krokidas & Bluestein have guided us for many years,” said William J. Taylor, President and CEO of Advocates, Inc. “They are worthy examples of our business partners who thoroughly support the mission of Advocates, Inc. and help us continue to provide vital programs designed to enrich the lives of those we serve.”

“Bringing Abilities to Light” is the theme for the 2008 gala because it reflects the many accomplishments that Advocates, Inc. will be celebrating. The event honors the entrepreneurial spirit of people with Prader-Willi Syndrome who are served by the organization, and their successful candle-making venture. Generous donations and support received to date will soon allow Advocates, Inc. to turn today's stove-top operation into a genuine manufacturing facility, providing people with disabilities the opportunity to work in a business that truly “brings their abilities to light.”

“Bringing Abilities to Light” also describes the story of the Gala’s VIP guest speaker and evening's entertainment, Wambui Bahati. Wambui is an actress, singer, writer, storyteller, and inspirational speaker with a background of challenging adversities. Once told that she would spend the rest of her life in mental institutions, she is a dynamic survivor who has brought her own abilities into the light.

The Gala will take place on Friday May 2, 2008 at the Sheraton Tara in Framingham. Gala tickets may be purchased online at [www.advocatesinc.org](http://www.advocatesinc.org).

**About Advocates, Inc.**

Established in 1975, Advocates Inc. is among the 20 largest human service organizations in Massachusetts and is a leading provider of outpatient mental health and substance abuse services, intensive home-based intervention for children and families; community education; job training and support; housing and benefits; advocacy services and community justice programs. Based in Framingham, Mass., Advocates, Inc. provides residential, vocational, respite and psychiatric emergency services in more than 100 sites in Eastern Massachusetts.

**About Krokidas & Bluestein LLP**

Krokidas & Bluestein has a diverse practice with areas of concentration in real estate development and finance; public and non-profit general corporate law; social services, health and education law; public and private civil litigation; labor and employment law, and public finance. A woman-owned, SOMWBA-certified business enterprise, Krokidas & Bluestein was founded in 1979. Additional information can be found at [www.kb-law.com](http://www.kb-law.com).

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