

**Outstanding Young Lawyer Award – NACC  
August 26, 2015  
Acceptance Remarks - Stephanie R. Klitsch**

Good Afternoon,

I am greatly humbled and honored to be receiving this award. I would like to offer my sincerest gratitude to the National Association of Counsel for Children for this amazing honor. I would also like to thank Robert McCarter and Bob Simmons from Council for Children's Rights for nominating me.

Tomorrow marks 3 years since I started as an attorney at Council for Children's Rights. Doing this work of fighting on behalf of children has been a dream of mine since high school. It is unexpected and humbling to be recognized for doing the work I love.

Many of the organizations represented at this conference have been sources of inspiration for me over the past several years. I had incredible internships at National Center for Youth Law, Legal Services for Children, and Council for Children's Rights. My time with the clinic and public interest staff at Stanford Law School was instrumental in preparing me for this work.

I am endlessly grateful to my family. My husband, parents, siblings, grandparents, in-laws, and friends have been unwavering in their love and support.

Each day we have the privilege to be invited into the lives of children and families, to hear their struggles, and to work as partners with them to help remove the obstacles in their path. While the work is rewarding, we also all know how challenging it can be. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the work you do every day. It is exciting for me to be among you and learn from you this week.

I am grateful to this conference for bringing together a community of advocates from across the nation so that we can share information and energize one another. It is critical for us to continue to find ways to support one another in our mission to enhance the well-being of children and families. With a strong community of passionate advocates, we can create a renewed focus on the welfare of families in our communities and our nation.

Thank you again for this honor.