2015 Adams Pro Bono Publico Awards

The Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services of the
Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court
Invites Nominations for the
2015 Adams Pro Bono Publico Awards

Overview

In furtherance of SJC Rule 6.1, Voluntary Pro Bono Publico Service, the Supreme Judicial Court Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services annually presents the Adams Pro Bono Publico Awards to honor Massachusetts lawyers, law students, small and large law firms, government attorney offices, corporate law departments, law schools or other institutions in the legal profession that demonstrate outstanding and exceptional commitment to providing volunteer legal services for the poor and disadvantaged. The 2015 Pro Bono Publico Awards will be presented in a ceremony at the John Adams Courthouse on October 28, 2015, in conjunction with the American Bar Association's recognition of National Pro Bono Week. The Adams Pro Bono Publico Awards are named in honor of Attorneys John Adams and John Quincy Adams.

It is through "…commitment and hard work, [that] we can move closer to our goal of providing access to justice for all."
- Retired SJC Chief Justice Herbert P. Wilkins, upon establishment of the Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services

Award Criteria

Awardees will be selected from those who have excelled in providing volunteer services in one or more of the following ways:

- Participated in an activity or pro bono program which resulted in satisfying previously unmet needs or in extending services to underserved segments of the population;
- Successfully litigated pro bono cases that favorably affected the provision of other services to the poor; and/or
- Successfully achieved legislation that contributed substantially to legal services to the poor.

Nomination Guidelines

- Kindly submit a narrative explaining how the candidate meets the criteria for The Adams Pro Bono Publico Awards. Describe in detail the nature of the pro bono contribution and identify those who have benefited. Additional information that would be helpful includes principal areas of practice, the number of years practicing law, hours spent on pro bono activities, other public service contributions, educational background, and bar association activities.
- Include up to three letters of support from other individuals and organizations who are aware of the candidate's pro bono contribution. If possible, please include one letter from a beneficiary of the pro bono legal services.
- Nominations submitted in 2014 remain active for consideration in the 2015 Awards program, provided that the nominating party submits a letter restating the intent to nominate the candidate and updating the narrative with any relevant information.
- Nominations should be received no later than **Friday, July 3, 2015.** Nominations should clearly identify the name and contact information of the nominating party (telephone number and email); nominations should also include contact information (telephone number and email) for the nominated candidate.
- Submit nominations and all supporting materials to: by mail to Robert C. Sacco, Esq., The 2015 Adams Pro Bono Publico Awards, c/o Lyon & Fitzpatrick, LLP, 14 Bobala Road, 4th Floor, Holyoke, MA 01040, or by e-mail to rsacco@lyonfitzpatrick.com.

Please contact Carol Lev at the Supreme Judicial Court at (617) 557-1074 or at carol.lev@sjc.state.ma.us with any questions regarding the Awards or the nomination process.

Adams Awards Recipients 2002-2014

2002 (inaugural awards ceremony)
Henry Raphaelson, Raphaelson & Raphaelson, Worcester
S. Stephen Rosenfeld, Rosenfeld & Rafik, Boston; Founder, Health Law Advocates, Inc., Boston
Foley, Hoag & Eliot LLP, Boston

2003
Michael G. Paris, Partner, Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP, Boston
Stanford & Schall, New Bedford
Women's Bar Foundation

2004
John A. Burdick, Jr., Worcester
Anna E. Dodson, Associate, Goodwin Proctor LLP, Boston
Bankruptcy Law Section of the Boston Bar Association

2005
Mark Berson, President, Levy, Winer & Berson, P.C., Greenfield
The Honorable Edward M. Ginsburg, retired, Middlesex Probate and Family Court; Founder, Senior Partners for Justice
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., with special recognition to partners Susan J. Cohen and Grant Sovern

2006
Marion E. Broidrick and Lawrence A. Zalis for their work on behalf of the Barnstable Action for New Direction (BAND)
Heisler, Feldman, McCormick & Garrow, P.C., Springfield
Samual B. Moskowitz, Partner, Davis, Malm & D'Agostine, P.C., Boston

2007
Leigh-Ann Patterson Durant, Lexington, Associate General Counsel of Clinical Trials and Medical Affairs for EMD Serono, Inc., Rockland, formerly of Nixon Peabody LLP
Holly Sanborn Dyar, Plymouth
The Boston office of the law firm of Dechert LLP

2008
John G. Dugan, Millis, Principal in the law firm of Doherty Ciechanowski, Dugan & Cannon, P.C., Franklin and Medfield
Edward Notis-McConarty, Newton, Partner, Hemenway & Barnes LLP, Boston
Francis J. (Jay) Lynch III, North Easton, Managing Partner, Lynch & Lynch, Boston and South Easton
Christine J. Wichers, Cambridge, and Lisa M. Gaulin, South Boston, Choate Hall & Stewart LLP, Boston

2009
Andrew P. Cornell, Cambridge
Justin H. Dion, Bacon Wilson, PC, Springfield
Margaret M. Pinkham, formerly of Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP, Boston

2010
McDermott Will & Emery LLP, Boston, with special recognition to partners Melissa Nott Davis, Esq. and Edward P. Leibensperger, Esq
Kathleen McGrath, Esq., Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, Boston
Alfred C. Phillips, Esq.

2011
Kerry Elizabeth Doyle, Boston
Donal Eoin Reilly, East Boston
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., Boston

2012
Susan Corcoran, Cambridge
DLA Piper LLP, Boston,
Dorothy Varon, Mass Mutual Life Insurance, Springfield
Steven Dzubak, Student, Western New England School of Law, Springfield

2013
Michele Garvin, Ropes & Gray LLP, Boston
Verrill Dana LLP, Boston and Victoria Rothbaum, Lexington
Carolyn Scott-Howe, Chicopee
Benjamin Jones, Student, New England Law | Boston

2014
Hon. Patrick Fox (Ret.), Sterling
Valquiria Castiglione Ribeiro, Fall River
Seth Orkand, WilmerHale, Boston
Elizabeth McIntyre, Student, Boston University Law School