

2024 Access to Justice Awards Dinner

NOMINATION FORM

Honoring extraordinary service in the public interest by individuals and organizations in northwest Ohio.

Return Paper Nomination Form to:

Access to Justice Awards Nominations | 525 Jefferson Ave. Toledo, OH 43614

—OR—

Submit your Nomination Online:

ablelaw.org/A2J-nominate

Questions?

Contact Carmen Vega-Pérez at ABLE at (419) 930-2515 or
cvega@ablelaw.org

NOMINATIONS DUE:
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024



People are doing great things in northwest Ohio to support equal justice. Please help us recognize them for their hard work and commitment to helping others with an Access to Justice Award. Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. (LAWO), and the Toledo Bar Association (TBA) Pro Bono Legal Services Program want to publicly recognize extraordinary service in the public interest by attorneys and community leaders in northwest Ohio.

The awards will be presented at the Access to Justice Awards Dinner to be held **June 20, 2024**. Attendees include colleagues of individual recipients, as well as supporters of legal services in northwest Ohio. The Access to Justice Awards Steering Committee is looking for nominations for this year's awards. Nominations can be submitted by email or in hard copy format. Please review the award criteria and complete the nomination form along with a letter of nomination to be received no later than **Thursday, February 29, 2024**. We look forward to adding the names of the 2023 honorees to this distinguished list:

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW AWARD RECIPIENTS

1998 Esteban R. Callejas
 1999 Veronica M. Murphy
 1999 Mark F. Prajsner
 2000 Stehen M. Dane
 2000 Cooper, Walinski & Cramer
 2001 William G. Meyer
 2003 Terry J. Lodge
 2003 Richard Mitchell
 2004 Harland Britz
 2004 Judge Joseph Flores
 2005 Randall Dixon
 2005 John Blaufuss
 2005 Jack E. Gallon
 2006 Cindy Voller
 2007 Robert S. Salem
 2008 Gabrielle Davis
 2010 Vincent M. Nathan
 2011 Paul T. Belazis
 2012 Thomas P. Goodwin
 2012 Marathon Petroleum Corporation
 2012 Findlay Hancock County
 Bar Association
 2013 John T. Murray, Leslie O. Murray,
 Michael J Stewart
 2014 Anspach Meeks Ellenberger, LLP
 2014 HCR ManorCare Legal Depart.
 2015 Matthew Reger
 2016 Rochelle A. Abou-Arraj
 2017 Steven P. Collier
 2018 Gretchen DeBacker
 2019 Megan K. Mattimoe
 2020 Dean Horrigan
 2022 James F. Nooney, Sr.
 2023 Eugenio Mollo, Jr.

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AWARD RECIPIENTS

1998 Rose M. Newton
 1999 Alvina R. Costilla
 2000 Rev. Chester Chambers
 2001 Fair Housing Center of Toledo
 2003 Lola Glover/The Coalition for
 Quality Education
 2004 Defiance Co. Domestic
 Violence Task Force
 2005 Lucas County Court Appointed
 Special Advocates (CASA)
 2006 Shelley Papenfuss
 2007 Betty Morais
 2007 The Zepf Center
 2008 Nellie Edwards
 2010 Betty A. Amison-Lewis
 2011 Billie Johnson
 2011 Elizabeth S. Ruppert, MD
 2012 Margarita DeLeon
 2013 Ken Leslie
 2014 The Reentry Coalition of
 Northwest Ohio
 2015 Catholic Charities, Diocese
 of Toledo
 2015 Phyllis Morton
 2016 Michael D. Hampton
 2017 Olivia P. Holden
 2018 Dr. Celia Williamson
 2019 Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie
 2020 Veralucía Mendoza
 2022 Beatriz Maya
 2022 David L. Beckwith
 2023 Ramón Pérez

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

2001 James Klein
 2003 Thomas J. Tucker
 2004 David Ward
 2006 William J. Bingle
 2008 Hon. David A. Katz
 2010 R. Jeffrey Bixler
 2010 Hon. James G. Carr
 2010 Thomas L. Young
 2011 Laurie J. Pangle
 2012 C. Thomas McCarter
 2013 David Coyls
 2014 Cary R. Cooper
 2016 Michael J. Todak
 2016 Hon. Connie F.
 Zimmelman
 2017 Russell A. Kelm
 2018 R. Michael Frank
 2019 Margaret J. Lockhart
 2020 E. James Stengle III
 2022 Dana Incorporated
 2023 Hon. Myron C. Duhart

All nominees must reside in northwest Ohio and may not be employed by ABLE, LAWO, or the TBA Pro Bono Legal Services Program. If you have any questions regarding the nomination process, please contact the Regional Director of Development, **Carmen Vega Pérez** at (419) 930-2515 or cvega@ablelaw.org.

2024 Access to Justice Awards Dinner Nomination Form

Name of Nominee: _____ Title/Position: _____

Organization/Firm: _____

Nominee Phone: _____ Nominee Fax: _____

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please complete this form and submit a detailed letter describing how the nominee meets the criteria for the Public Interest Law Award or the Community Advocacy Award, accompanied by brief biographical information. Support materials can include resumes, newspaper or newsletter articles, videos, etc. Specific information about the nominee is more helpful than general comments.

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW AWARD

Please note that representation over time and the pro bono nature of the work are considered when selecting this award recipient.

1. Describe how the individual or firm you are nominating represents or has represented clients who are persons of color or have a disability, or are disadvantaged.

2. Please describe how the individual or firm you are nominating has made a significant or lasting benefit to the clients represented.

3. Describe the urgency, difficulty, or novelty, along with the impact of the work provided.

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AWARD

This award is intended to recognize advocacy and community organizing, rather than direct provision of human services.

1. Describe the grassroots organizing, public education, or community advocacy performed by the individual or organization you are nominating.

2. How does this work benefit low-income, disadvantaged persons, or communities?

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