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Call for Award Nominations

UB Law Forum
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Each year, the Law Alumni Association presents awards to recognize and honor the outstanding contributions, work and service of Law School alumni/ae and friends. In recent years, the nominating committee has sought to extend its search for qualified awards recipients beyond Western New York. After all, approximately 4000 of a total of 6,500 Law School alumni/ae now live outside the local area. To help us, we are asking you to take the time to nominate a colleague, or perhaps yourself.

Please send us a letter explaining why you think a person should be honored, along with any supporting data. This should include the nominee’s up-to-date resume or vita. Newspaper or magazine clippings, or any other published information that explains the nominee’s particular achievements or contributions would be helpful.

An Awards Committee will make the final selection of the award recipients. It will meet in August to decide on the Jaekle winner and in February to decide on the Distinguished Alumni Awards.

For a list of previous winners — or if you have any questions — call Ilene Fleischmann, Executive Director of the Law Alumni Association, at (716) 645-2107. Send your nominations to her c/o UB Law School, 310 O’Brian Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260. Descriptions of the various awards and criteria are as follows:

▼ The Jaekle Award, which is named for UB alumnus Edwin F. Jaekle, Class of 1915, is the highest honor the Law School and the Alumni Association can bestow. It is presented by President Greiner at a luncheon immediately following the Annual Convention.

Criteria: A recipient of this award should be a person having some significant contact with the Law School. He or she need not have engaged in any of the traditional callings of law graduates but might be engaged in a non-law-related business, as, for example, the chief executive of a major business corporation. The award should be given only to a person who has achieved a particular renown and distinction. It does not matter whether he or she is an alumnus/a. Awards may be given posthumously.

▼ The Distinguished Alumni Awards are given in five categories: the judiciary, private practice, public service, community service and business/corporate counsel. They are traditionally presented by President Greiner at the Annual Alumni Association Dinner.

Criteria: Recipients should be alumni/ae of the Law School, but need not be a member of the Alumni Association. Awards may be given posthumously. They may be awarded on separate occasions to the same person in more than one category. Each should be a person who has brought credit to the Law School and its alumni/ae. Preference should be given to those who are able and willing to be physically present to receive the award.

For the Judiciary: This award may be conferred upon members of the judiciary serving in any court of law; however, it should not include administrative law judges or hearing examiners (Persons serving in such positions might be considered for a public service award). Recipients should be knowledgeable in the law and diligent and skillful in conducting research; efficient and diligent in the disposition of cases; considerate of the time of and courteous toward attorneys, litigants, jurors and court personnel; openminded; honest and conscientious.

For Private Practice: This award does not require that the recipient be in active practice when nominated. Recipients should have the respect of fellow practitioners and they should enhance the image of the profession. He or she should be knowledgeable in the law; courteous and tactful in dealing with attorneys, clients, the judiciary and others; honest and trustworthy; diligent and prompt in handling clients affairs; scrupulously ethical; and considerate of the time of clients, fellow attorneys, the judiciary and others.

For Public Service: Recipients for this award should be courteous, knowledgeable and skilled in their fields of public service. They should enjoy the respect and admiration of members of the public and the bar; give their time and assistance to members of the public and the profession; devote more energy, time and diligence to their callings than has been required by the terms of their employment; and possess reputations for integrity and conscientiousness.

For Community Service: Recipients should enjoy the respect and admiration of fellow practitioners and members of the public. They should demonstrate devoted service in granting their time and assistance to charitable and or community organizations.

For Business/Corporate Counsel: This award does not require that the recipient be in active practice when nominated. Recipients should demonstrate strong leadership skills in business and/or corporate legal affairs. They should be knowledgeable in dealing with attorneys and business persons; courteous and tactful; honest and trustworthy; diligent and prompt in the handling of business and corporate legal matters. They should enhance the image of their business or profession and/or corporate legal profession.