

**American Bar Association
Law Student Division**

2009 Judy M. Weightman Memorial Public Interest Award Criteria

Deadline for Receipt: April 1, 2009

The Law Student Division Public Interest Award serves as a testament to Professor Judy M. Weightman of the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii who, before losing her battle with breast cancer in 1998, demonstrated her passion for justice and tirelessly advocated on behalf of minorities and the poor. This award recognizes law students and law schools who have made outstanding contributions to underrepresented groups or public interest causes outside the law school and/or in public service at the law school.

ELIGIBILITY

ABA-approved law schools, their law students and law school organizations.

PART A – CONTACT INFORMATION

You will be required to provide accurate contact information for the following individuals:

1. Nominee
2. Nominator
3. Law School SBA President
4. Law School ABA Representative
5. Law School Dean

PART B – NOMINEE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

You will be required to provide the following background information regarding the nominee:

1. Nominee's total 2008-2009 budget
2. 2008-2009 law school enrollment
3. Nominee's total law student participation

PART C – NARRATIVE QUESTIONS (2,000 WORD LIMIT)

In the narrative portion of the Nomination Packet, you will be required to answer the following questions about your nominee using a maximum of 2,000 words:

1. **Description:** Please describe your event/program/initiative and indicate which public interest group or cause the event/program/initiative represented.
2. **New or Existing Initiative:** Please indicate if this was a new or continuing event/program/initiative.
 - If new, please describe the issues/situations that prompted the need for the program and indicate if the goals you wished to accomplish were met and if the program will continue in subsequent years.
 - If a continuing program, please indicate its inception and goals of the program. Please also describe if and how this continuing program differed from previous years and what, if any, new and innovative ideas were implemented this year.
3. **Impact:** How did your event/program/initiative impact the public interest cause or contribute to a heightened awareness and sensitivity to the public interest cause?

4. **Role:** What role(s) did your legal education or law school resources play in the success of the event/program/initiative?
5. **Participation:** What was the overall participation, reaction and commitment of the student body, faculty, administration and community to this public interest event/program/initiative?
6. **Benefits:** Please describe the short- or long-term benefits that this event/program/initiative provided to the law student body, law school or community.
7. **Promotion:** Did you promote/market this event as part of the ABA Law Student Division Annual Public Interest/Service Work-A-Day Program? If so, please describe.

PART D – NOMINATOR’S CERTIFICATION

As the nominator, you will be required to certify that:

1. The information contained in the Nomination Packet is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge.
2. The narrative answering the questions in Part C contains no more than 2,000 words.

PART E – DEAN’S CERTIFICATION

In order for your nomination to be considered by the ABA Law Student Division Awards Selection Committee, the Law School Dean or Assistant Dean must affirm your nomination by completing Part E of the Nomination Packet to signify his/her approval of your nomination. Nominators are responsible for obtaining the dean's signature certifying his/her approval of the nomination.