

September 2005

Awards

2005 ABA Medal

Crusading civil rights lawyer **George N. Leighton** of **Chicago** received the ABA Medal during the 2005 Annual Meeting. The ABA Medal is the association's highest award and is given only in years when the ABA Board of Governors determines a nominee has rendered exceptionally distinguished service to the cause of American jurisprudence. While Leighton never attended high school, he was awarded conditional admission to Howard University. From there he graduated magna cum laude in 1940 and was awarded a scholarship to Harvard Law School. Leighton has represented more than 200 criminal defendants in bench and jury trials, and handled more than 175 appeals and reviews in civil and criminal cases in state and federal courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States. Among them were successful challenges to an Alabama constitutional amendment establishing a constitutional knowledge test as a prerequisite to voting, and to a segregated public school system in Harrisburg, Ill. For more information, please contact Marilyn Barmash at mbarmash@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5160.

Pro Bono Publico

The Pro Bono Publico Award, given by the ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service to those showing outstanding commitment to volunteer legal services, went to **J. Philip Burt** of **Fort Wayne, Ind.**; **Lawrence J. Fox** of **Philadelphia**; **Elizabeth McCallum** of **Washington, D.C.**; **Jeffrey A. Simes** of **New York** and **Deborah Ebel** of **Atlanta**, who was also selected as the recipient of the Ann Liechty Pro Bono Award, a special award given to a lawyer who has demonstrated outstanding pro bono legal services to children in custody cases. For more information on this award, please contact Tamaara Mason at masont@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5756.

Harrison Tweed Award

The **Lafayette Parish Bar Association (Louisiana)**, the **New York State Bar Association** and the **Cleveland Bar Association (Ohio)** received the Harrison Tweed Award from the ABA Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants and the National Legal Aid and Defender Association. These organizations were recognized for extraordinary achievements in developing and expanding programs to increase access to civil legal services to the poor or criminal defense services to indigents. Please contact Janice Jones at janicejones@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5767 for more information.

Award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy

The ABA Standing Committee on Environmental Law and the Section of Environment, Energy and Resources selected **Pace University School of Law Environmental Law Program** and **John R. Quarles** of **Washington, D.C.**, for this award, which is given to those who contribute significant leadership in improving the substance, process or understanding of environmental law or policy. For more information, contact Mary Jordan Mullinax at mullinam@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1694.

Partnership Awards

The **Bar Association of San Francisco**, the **North Carolina Bar Association Minorities in the Profession Committee**, the **Dallas Bar Association Minority Attorney Initiatives** and the **Washington State Bar Association Leadership Institute** received the ABA Partnership Awards, given to organizations that show a significant effort in increasing diversity in the legal profession by the ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services. For more information contact the Division for Bar Services at 312/988-5343.

E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Award
Duke University School of Law's Blueprint for Lawyer Education and Development and the **University of St. Thomas School of Law's Mentor Externship** were recognized with the E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Award for their commitment to professionalism through programming. The award is presented by the ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism. For more information, please contact Kathleen Maher at maherk@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5307.

Robert J. Kutak Award
Geoffrey C. Hazard, trustee professor of law at the **University of Pennsylvania Law School** and director emeritus of the **American Law Institute** was selected for the Robert J. Kutak Award. This award is given annually by the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar in recognition of outstanding contributions to legal education in the United States. Please contact Carl Brambrink at cbrambrink@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-6741 for more information.

Jefferson B. Fordham Award
 The Jefferson B. Fordham Awards were presented to **R. Theodore Clark Jr.** of **Chicago**, **Scott Houston** of **Austin, Texas**, and the **International Municipal Lawyers Association** in **Washington, D.C.** The award recognizes individuals and institutions that have demonstrated outstanding achievement within the area of state and local government law. This award is given by the ABA Section of State and Local Government Law. For more information, please contact Jackie Baker at jlbaker@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5652.

Dorsey Award
Bryan D. Shaha, Colorado Alternative Defense Counsel of **Greeley, Colo.**, was selected for the Dorsey Award, presented by the ABA Government and Public Sector Lawyers Division for exceptional work by a public defender or legal aid worker. For more information, please contact Susan Kidd at susankidd@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1022.

Cyberspace Award
Marc Rotenberg, who teaches information privacy at **Georgetown University Law Center** in **Washington, D.C.**, received the Cyberspace Award from the ABA Section of Business Law. Rotenberg has testified before Congress on issues including access to information, encryption policy and consumer protection. The award is given out annually to an individual who has made a substantial contribution to the development of the law of cyberspace. Please contact Nhu Ly for more information at lynhu@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-6710.

Higginbotham Law Student Award for Excellence in an Essay
Jamie M. Hawk of **Seattle** received the **Higginbotham Law Student Award for Excellence in an Essay** for her piece titled "Unmet Legal Needs: Unaccompanied Immigrant Children in U.S. Detention." The award is presented by the ABA Steering Committee on the Unmet Legal Needs of Children. Please contact Moreen Murphy at murphym@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1675.

Leonard J. Theberge Award for Private International Law
Don Wallace Jr., of the International Law Institute in **Washington, D.C.**, was selected for the Leonard J. Theberge Award for Private International Law. The award is presented to a lawyer in recognition of distinguished contributions to the development of private international law. Please contact Leanne Pfautz at pfautzl@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1661.

Lawyer as Problem Solver Award
Carl A. Poirot of **San Diego** was selected for the Lawyer as Problem Solver Award. The award is given by the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution to recognize lawyers who use their problem-solving skills to forge creative solutions and exhibit extraordinary skill in either promoting the concept of the lawyer as problem solver or resolving individual, institutional, community, state, national or international problems. For more information, please contact Regina Ashmon at ashmonr@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1686.

Solo of the Year Award

Brian T. Hermanson of **Ponca City, Okla.**, received the Solo of the Year Award from the ABA General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Division. The award is given to a sole practitioner widely accepted by his peers as having consistently achieved distinction and epitomizing the ideals of the legal profession. For more information, please contact Alexa Giacomini at giacomia@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5636.

Solo and Small Firm Project Award

The **Ohio State Bar Association** and the **North Carolina Bar Association** were recognized with the Solo and Small Firm Project Award, designed to reward bar leaders and associations for their successful projects. The award is given by the ABA General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Division. For more information, please contact Alexa Giacomini at giacomia@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5636.

Solo Practitioner of Merit

Juan R. Thomas of **Chicago** received the Solo Practitioner of Merit Award, which recognizes solo practitioners who have shown outstanding dedication to the practice of law. This award is given by the ABA General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Division. For more information, please contact Alexa Giacomini at giacomia@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5636.

Pro Bono Award

The ABA Senior Lawyers Division presented **Howard S. Davis** of **New York** with its Pro Bono Award. Davis was honored for his continued dedication to pro bono legal services in New York City. For more information, please contact Angela Boykin at boykinaa@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5565.

Hodson Award

The Hodson Award was presented to **Legal Aid of the Bluegrass (Covington, Ky.)** by the ABA Government and Public Sector Lawyers Division. This award is presented annually for sustained, outstanding performance or a specific and extraordinary service by a government or public sector law office. For more information, please contact Susan Kidd at susankidd@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1022.

Michael Franck Professional Responsibility Award

The Michael Franck Professional Responsibility Award was given to **E. Norman Veasey**, former Chief Justice of the **Delaware Supreme Court**. This award is given by the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility to someone who has shown outstanding contributions to the field of legal ethics, lawyer regulation and professionalism. Please contact George Kuhlman at gkuhlman@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5300.

Minister of Justice Award

Charles J. Hynes of **Kings County, N.Y.**, received the ABA Criminal Justice Section's Minister of Justice Award. This award is given to prosecutors who exemplify the prosecutor's obligation to protect the innocent as well as to convict the guilty and guard the rights of the accused and enforce the rights of the public. For more information on this award, please contact Jack Hanna at hannaj@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1510.

Livingston Hall Juvenile Justice Award

Steve Drizen of **Northwestern University** in **Chicago** and **Robert Shepherd** of **T. C. Williams School of Law** in **Richmond, Va.**, were selected to receive the Livingston Hall Juvenile Justice Award from the ABA Criminal Justice Section. The award recognizes lawyers practicing in the juvenile justice field who have demonstrated a high degree of skill, commitment, and professionalism in representing their young clients. For more information, please contact Jack Hanna at hannaj@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1510.

Child Advocacy Award

The Child Advocacy Award, presented by the ABA Young Lawyers Division's Center on Children and the Law, was given to **Andrew K. Block** of **Charlottesville, Va.**, and **Erik Pitchal** (Young Lawyer Category) of **New York** to recognize their outstanding efforts in child welfare and protection. Please contact Tracy Kaempf at kaempft@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5626.

William W. Greenhalgh Student Writing Competition

Amy Suzanne Martin of **The University of North Carolina Chapel Hill School of Law** won the William W. Greenhalgh Student Writing Competition, sponsored by the ABA Criminal Justice Section, for her essay "The Use of Juvenile Delinquency Adjudications to Enhance an Adult Defendant's Sentence." The competition honors the late Georgetown law professor and Section member who was a distinguished scholar of Fourth Amendment constitutional law. For more information on this award, please contact Jack Hanna at hannaj@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1510.

Kirsten Christophe Memorial Award for Excellence in Trial and Insurance Law

The ABA Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section recognized **Francine L. Semaya** of **New York** with the Kirsten Christophe Memorial Award for Excellence in Trial and Insurance Law, created in honor of Kirsten Christophe, a former TIPS Council member who died in the World Trade Center attack on Sept. 11, 2001. This award is presented to a section member or members who demonstrate expertise in an area of trial practice or insurance law, and who personify the exemplary attributes of Kirsten Christophe. Please contact Sarai Shacklett at shackles@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5574.

CEELI Award

The ABA Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative awarded CEELI co-founder **Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte** of **Miami** with its Volunteers Award and the **Committee of Voters of Ukraine** with its Reformers Award. These awards are given annually to recognize significant steps toward implementing legal reforms in Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union and the Middle East. Please contact Elina Erlendsson at eerlendsson@abaceeli.org or 202/662-1522.

Edmund S. Muskie Pro Bono Service Award

The ABA Section of Tort Trial & Insurance Practice selected **A. Bruce Jones** of **Denver, Colo.**, to receive the Edmund S. Muskie Pro Bono Service Award, given to someone who has performed outstanding pro bono work as defined by Rule 6.1(a) of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct. For more information, please contact Linda Wiley at lmwiley@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5673.

International Human Rights Award

The ABA Section of Litigation's International Human Rights Award recognizes outstanding and long-term contributions to human rights in foreign countries. The section chose **Roger Myers** of **San Francisco** as its recipient. For more information, please contact Melissa Wood at woodm@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-6228.

Louis B. Sohn Award for Public International Law

The ABA Section of International Law selected **Harold Koh** of **Yale Law School** for the Louis B. Sohn Award for Public International Law, presented to individuals who have performed sustained outstanding service or a specific and extraordinary service in the development of public international law. Please contact Leanne Pfautz at pfautzl@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1661 for more information.

Thurgood Marshall Award

Abner J. Mikva of **Chicago**, former Chief Judge of the **U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia**, was selected for the Thurgood Marshall Award, given by the ABA Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities to an individual who has displayed long-term contributions to civil rights, civil liberties or human rights in the United States. For more information, please contact Tanya Terrell-Collier at terrellt@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1030.

Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Awards

Six women lawyers who have achieved professional excellence and actively paved the way to success for other women lawyers received the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Awards from the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession.

Awards went to **U.S. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton** of **New York**; **Professor Loretta C. Argrett** of **Washington, D.C.**; **Mary B. Cranston** of **San Francisco**; **Chief Judge Carolyn Dineen King** of **Houston**; **Judith L. Lichtman** of **Washington, D.C.**; and **Illinois Chief Justice Mary Ann McMorro** of **Chicago**. For more information, please contact Julia Gillespie at gillespj@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5668.

John Marshall Award

The John Marshall Award is presented annually to an individual who has had a positive, national impact on the justice system. The ABA Judicial Division and Justice Center presented this award to **Chief Judge Judith Kaye** of **New York**. For more information, please contact Aimee Skrzekut-Torres at torresa@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5687.

Frances Perkins Public Service Award

The **D.C. Employment Law Center, Washington, D.C.**, received the Frances Perkins Public Service Award from the ABA Labor and Employment Law Section in recognition of significant pro bono services in the labor and employment area. For more information, please contact Stuart Meyer at meyers@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5593.

Silver Gavel Award

Presented by the ABA Standing Committee on Gavel Awards, the Silver Gavel Awards are presented annually to communications media that have been exemplary in helping to foster the American public's understanding of the law and the legal system. The 2005 winners are:

Newspapers: *The Chicago Tribune*, "Forensics Under the Microscope"

Books: *Black Trials: Citizenship from the Beginning of Slavery to the End of Caste*, by Mark S. Weiner (Alfred A. Knopf)

Magazines: *The Nation*, "Brown at 50"

Television Dramas: *CourtTV*, "Chasing Freedom"

Television News: *CourtTV*, "Marvin Anderson's Nightmare: Stories of the Innocence Project"

Radio: *American RadioWorks/American Public Media*, "Thurgood Marshall Before the Court"

For more information, please contact Howard Kaplan at howardkaplan@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5738.

Jacques T. Schlenger Student Writing Contest

The ABA Section of Real Property, Probate and Trust Law awarded **Craig S. Kaufman** of **Temple University** in **Philadelphia** first place in its Jacques T. Schlenger Student Writing Contest for his submission of "Sympathy for the Devil's Advocate: Assisting the Attorney General When Charitable Matters Reach the Courtroom." Second place was awarded to **Adrienne Iwamoto Suarez** of the **University of Hawaii, Honolulu**, and third place went to **Jennifer Felton** of **Southwestern University** in **Los Angeles**. For more information, please contact Robin Roy at robinroy@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5670.

Paul G. Hearne Award for Disability Rights

Rhonda Brown of **University Place, Wash.**, received the Paul G. Hearne Award for Disability Rights, given by the ABA Commission on Mental and Physical Disability Law, which recognizes significant contributions by individuals or entities to furthering the rights, dignity and access to justice for people with disabilities. For more information, please contact Jamie Hochman Herz at herza@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1573.

John J. Curtin Jr. Fellowship Award

Fellowships were awarded to **Sara Longley, Seattle University School of Law; Morgen Smith, University of Pennsylvania Law School;** and **Brienne Williams, Salmon P. Chase (Highland Heights, Ky.) College of Law**. Given by the ABA Commission on Homelessness and Poverty and the Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants, the John J. Curtin Jr. Fellowship Award is given to three law students with a demonstrated commitment to public interest law and advocacy on behalf of homeless and impoverished people. For more information, please contact Mary Jordan Mullinax at mullinam@staff.abanet.org or 202/662-1694.

Communications Law Scholarship

Kevin R. Kemper (University of Missouri-Columbia), Casey Murray (University of Kansas) and **Shannon Torgerson (Northwestern University)** were the 2005 scholarship winners. The Forum on Communications Law annually awards two or three full-ride scholarships to law students to attend its Annual Conference based on their interest in free speech and communications law, and any past experience working or volunteering in these areas. For more information, contact Teresa Ucok at tucok@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5658.

Affordable Housing Writing Competition

Lawrence Hansen of Brooklyn Law School was the winner of the 2005 Forum on Affordable Housing and Community Development Law Writing Competition for his essay titled "In Brokers We Trust: Using Mortgage Licensing Statutes as a Response to Predatory Lending." The award is presented annually to a law student who best addresses any legal issue regarding affordable housing and/or community development law. For more information, contact Teresa Ucok at tucok@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5658.

Howard C. Schwab Memorial Essay Contest

The ABA Section of Family Law awarded first place in the Howard C. Schwab Memorial Essay Contest to **Karly Grossman of Temple University in Philadelphia** for her essay titled, "Transsexuals and the Legal Determination of Sex." Second place went to **Melissa Kuciniski of Pace University in White Plains, N.Y.**, and **Matthew Pakula of Michigan State University** received third place. This award was created in honor of Howard Schwab, a past president-elect of the Section of Family Law who died while serving in that role. For more information contact Stephanie Kimme at kimmes@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5145.

Bolton Award for Professional Excellence

Sandra K. Cousins of Tulsa, Okla., received the Bolton Award for Professional Excellence. This award is given to a member of the National Association of Bar Executives who has made significant contributions to NABE, the organized bar and the legal profession. This award is presented by the National Association of Bar Executives. For more information, contact the ABA Division for Bar Services at 312/988-5343.

Bar Foundation Excellence

The **Ohio State Bar Foundation** received the Bar Foundation Excellence Award for its "Light the Way: Don't Leave Your Loved Ones in the Dark" program. The award is presented by the National Conference of Bar Foundations. For more information, contact the ABA Division for Bar Services at 312/988-5343.

Looking for Nominees

Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy

The ABA Standing Committee on Environmental Law and the Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources are calling for nominations for the 2006 ABA Award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy. One individual and one organization will be selected based on their record of significant contributions to environmental law and policy. For more information, please visit www.abanet.org/publicserv/environmental or contact mullinam@staff.abanet.org for a nomination packet.

KUDOS is a quarterly newsletter from the American Bar Association, which recognizes lawyers and others who have received awards from the ABA or one of its constituent groups. The newsletter also outlines upcoming award presentations, and opportunities for making nominations. If you would like to see an electronic version of the most recent edition visit: www.abanews.org/kudos/kudossept05.pdf.