

2014 Human Rights Award

LOUISIANA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

AWARD GUIDELINES

DEADLINE: **January 31, 2014**

The Louisiana State Bar Association Human Rights Award was established in 2010 by the Board of Governors to recognize outstanding efforts made by (1) a bar association, (2) law firm or law department, (3) an individual attorney or judge, (4) a court, (5) a community organization or individual in promoting diversity in the legal profession, in particular, to recognize efforts ensuring the full and equal opportunity of all persons for entry and advancement in Louisiana's legal profession.

AWARD CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

BAR ASSOCIATION CATEGORY

- All bar associations are eligible.
- The bar association must be located in Louisiana.
- The bar association must demonstrate a **sustained, long term commitment** to encouraging, increasing and/or retaining **diversity in the legal profession**.

LAW FIRM AND LAW DEPARTMENT CATEGORY

- All law firms, law departments, and legal offices are eligible.
- The firm or department must have at least one office located in Louisiana.
- The firm or department must demonstrate a **sustained, long term commitment** to encouraging, increasing and/or retaining **diversity in the legal profession**.

INDIVIDUAL LAWYER OR JUDGE CATEGORY

- The lawyer must be admitted to practice in Louisiana.
- The judge must have been elected or appointed to a state or federal court in Louisiana.
- The lawyer or judge can be on active or inactive status and from any practice setting, including academia, the judiciary, corporate, nonprofit, governmental sectors, etc.
- The lawyer or judge must demonstrate a **sustained, long term commitment** to encouraging, increasing and/or retaining **diversity in the legal profession**.
- Diversity activities can be performed within the scope of employment or on a voluntary basis.
- The lawyer or judge cannot be a current member of the LSBA Committee on Diversity.

JUDICIARY CATEGORY

- All Louisiana courts are eligible.
- The court must demonstrate a **sustained, long term commitment** to encouraging, increasing and/or retaining **diversity in the legal profession**.

COMMUNITY CATEGORY

- All community organizations and individuals of majority age are eligible.
- The community organization must have at least one office located in Louisiana.
- The community organization or individual must demonstrate a **sustained, long term commitment** to encouraging, increasing and/or retaining **diversity in the legal profession**.

ADDITIONAL FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN ALL CATEGORIES

- Development and demonstrated impact of programs or projects that
 - address issues of **access and bias in the legal profession** based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability or age
 - influence individuals who have been **historically under-represented in the legal profession** to pursue legal careers
 - increase advancement opportunities for lawyers who have been historically **under-represented in a particular job setting or practice area of the legal profession**

SELECTION PROCESS AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

All nominees and nominators will be notified of the receipt of submitted nominations.

The nominations will be submitted to the Diversity Awards Nominations Subcommittee of the LSBA Committee on Diversity. The Subcommittee will review all nominations and make recommendations to the Committee on Diversity. The Committee on Diversity will forward its recommended nominations to the Board of Governors for final approval.

To nominate a party, please submit a written narrative statement and supporting materials. The written submission should include the following: (1) The name of the nominee, (2) the category for which the nominee is nominated, and (3) a narrative statement explaining why the nominee should receive the award. It is recommended that the statement not exceed 300 words. You may attach additional documents to support your nominee to the extent needed. *Self nominations are permitted.*

The Diversity Awards Nomination Subcommittee reserves the right to interview a nominee and/or the nominator.

The nomination must be postmarked, faxed or emailed by **January 31, 2014**. **Emails and faxes are preferred. Incomplete nominations will not be accepted and will be returned to the nominator for completion and submission by the deadline.**

The awards will be presented during the LSBA 2014 Meeting in San Destin, FL.

The nomination form, synopsis, and supporting materials must be sent by fax, email, or mail by **January 31, 2014** to the following:

Kelly McNeil Legier
Director of Member Outreach and Diversity
Louisiana State Bar Association
601 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
Phone: (504) 566-1600
Fax: (504) 566-0930.