

THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION ("LACBA")  
OUTSTANDING JURIST AWARD  
(As amended February 27, 2018)

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**BACKGROUND**

The Board of Trustees ("Board") established the Award in March 1979. The Award may be given to no more than one judicial officer during each bar year (July 1 to June 30), and need not be given every bar year. Each bar year the Award is given, the Board shall select the recipient or recipients from a confidential list of nominees submitted by an Award Committee established in accordance with these procedures.

**CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD RECIPIENTS**

The Award should be viewed as recognition of a distinguished career on the bench, as well as contributions to the community and the practice of law. The following factors should be considered:

- Judicial Ability and Experience;
- Judicial Temperament and Demeanor;
- Knowledge of the Law, Legal Ability and Scholarship;
- Dedication and Diligence;
- Contribution to the Improvement or Education of the Legal Community;
- Contribution to the Community at Large;
- Contribution to the Practice of Law;
- Judicial Independence, Integrity, and Fairness.

**ELIGIBILITY TO BE NOMINATED BY THE AWARD COMMITTEE**

Those eligible must be either (1) a current state or federal judicial officer who principally sits in Los Angeles County, or (2) an individual who occupied such a position during the two-year period immediately prior to the Award Committee's first meeting, but has since retired, passed away, been elevated or otherwise changed positions.

**COMPOSITION OF THE AWARD COMMITTEE**

No more than once per year, LACBA's President may constitute an Award Committee which shall have at least 7 but no more than 12 members, each of whom shall be a current LACBA member, constituted from the following:

- One Chair, appointed by the President.
- One Vice-Chair, appointed by the President-Elect.
- At least five but no more than ten other members selected by the President from some or all (at the President's discretion) of the following LACBA constituencies: current and former Trustees, section and committee (including ad hoc committee) members, affiliated bar members, and past Presidents. The President shall select such members with due consideration to those representatives with practices that are litigation-related and giving due regard to demographic diversity (including diversity of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, age and other personal characteristics).

## ANNUAL PROCESS FOR SELECTING THE RECIPIENT

If no Award Committee has been constituted by the President for a particular bar year, the Award will not be given that bar year. If an Award Committee has been constituted for a particular bar year:

- (1) The Award Committee will solicit suggested nominations through LACBA's publications and by written communication (including e-mail and letter) to former honorees. Suggested nominations may be made to the Award Committee in writing (including by e-mail and letter) by members of LACBA and by past honorees. Suggested nominations may also be made to the Award Committee orally or in writing by any Award Committee member.
- (2) The Award Committee will meet, as the Chair may determine, to consider any such suggested nominations and to endeavor to agree upon a list of at least three, but no more than five, eligible Award nominees to propose for consideration by the Board.
- (3) At least one week before the Board meeting at which the nominees will be considered, the Award Committee Chair will either (a) submit to the Board a list of at least three, but no more than five, eligible Award nominees approved by the Award Committee (by simple majority vote) for consideration by the Board, or (b) advise the Board that the Award Committee did not agree upon at least three such eligible Award nominees (in which case the Award will not be given that bar year).
- (4) If the Award Committee Chair timely submits to the Board a list of three to five eligible Award nominees approved by the Award Committee, the Board will consider whether to select one of those nominees as the Award recipient for that bar year. At any Board meeting during which the Award Committee's nominees are considered, no additional nominees from the floor will be permitted. If the Board does not vote (by simple majority) to select one of the Award Committee's nominees as the Award recipient by 90 days prior to the date of the presentation event, no Award shall be given that bar year.

## CONFIDENTIALITY

All proceedings of the Award Committee and the Board relating to the Award (including suggested nominations, investigation of potential nominees, and discussions), as well as all writings and reports of the Award Committee or the Board relating to the Award, shall be and remain confidential, except for the name of any Awardee selected by the Board and that the current Award Committee members shall be provided with the list(s) of nominees presented to the Board in prior years.