

THE STATE BAR OF ARIZONA PUBLIC LAWYERS SECTION

is seeking nominations for the following awards:

2019 Distinguished Public Lawyer Award
2019 Public Lawyer Career Achievement Award
2019 Justice Michael D. Ryan Award for Judicial Excellence

*Please note: Nominations are due Monday, **April 15, 2019***

PURPOSE.

The purpose of these awards is to recognize outstanding public lawyers and judges who have made extraordinary and exemplary contributions to the state and the justice system. These awards will be presented at the Annual State Bar Convention.

NOMINATION CRITERIA.

DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC LAWYER AWARD: This award is intended to recognize the work and dedication of outstanding public attorneys. A public attorney is a licensed attorney who: (1) works for a government agency (federal, state or local) or nonprofit legal aid office; or (2) provides legal services to a government agency or agencies where legal services provided amount to at least 50% of the attorney's legal practice. Nominees must have at least five (5) years of experience as a public attorney and exhibit a dedication and commitment to public service and the public practice of law. Nominees may also distinguish themselves by making significant contributions that aid in the operation of government or by demonstrating extraordinary leadership, initiative, or innovation in the performance of their duties. Elected public officials are not eligible for this award.

PUBLIC LAWYER CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: This award is intended to recognize retired or retiring public attorneys who have had distinguished careers as public attorneys, have made many significant contributions to public service and are recognized as models of the dedication and commitment of public attorneys. All retired or retiring public attorneys are eligible to receive this award, including elected public officials. A public attorney is a licensed attorney who: (1) works for a government agency (federal, state or local) or nonprofit legal aid office; or (2) provides legal services to a government agency or agencies where the legal services provided amount to at least 50% of the attorney's legal practice.

JUSTICE MICHAEL D. RYAN AWARD FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD: The Public Lawyers Section seeks to honor a judicial officer who demonstrates a dedication and commitment to improving the justice system. Nominees should have high ideals, personal character and judicial competence. Nominees may be distinguished by: (1) participation in projects focused on improving the quality of justice or the justice system; (2) demonstrating innovation in the performance of their duties; and/or (3) demonstrating an ability to effectively handle complex or unusual trials or appeals. All federal, state and local judicial officers (including judges, commissioners, magistrates, hearing officers and justices of the peace) who have at least five years of judicial experience are eligible.

SELECTION PROCEDURE.

Nomination forms for these awards are attached. Additional forms are available by contacting Nancy Nichols at the State Bar office, Nancy.Nichols@staff.azbar.org. **All nominations must be submitted by Monday, April 15, 2019.** The Public Lawyers Section Executive Council will select the recipients for each award based upon the criteria described above. Questions regarding these awards should be directed to Nancy Nichols.