

THE MIKE MONAHAN LAW SCHOOL EXCELLENT IN ACCESS TO JUSTICE AWARD

(INDIVIDUAL STUDENT AND GROUP/PROJECT AWARDS)

Presented by the Access to Justice Committee of the State Bar of Georgia, the State Bar of Georgia Pro Bono Resource Center and State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division

NOMINATION CRITERIA

Created by the State Bar of Georgia Access to Justice Committee, the Pro Bono Resource Center and renamed by State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division, **the Mike Monahan Award** is open to all law students currently enrolled in or graduating from an accredited Georgia law schools and all student groups of Georgia law schools.

The Mike Monahan Award recognizes an individual law student and a law student group or group activity. The Student Award specifically recognizes a law student who has excelled in participation in support of a civil pro bono or legal aid program or who has developed or has been instrumental in the development of a civil pro bono program satisfying previously unmet civil legal needs or extended services to underserved segments of the population. The Group Award also specifically recognizes a law student-led group or activity that has demonstrated an effective mechanism in addressing the civil legal needs of the community or that has demonstrated a high level of participation and commitment of its members to provision of civil legal services to the poor in the community.

All law-related activities for which the nominee is credited must be within the realm of those permitted for law students and under the direction of a lawyer or law school program.

The Access to Justice Committee will select the best nominee for each award and will present the Student Award and Group Award with **The Mike Monahan Award** at State Bar of Georgia's annual Pro Bono Awards Reception.

A law school dean, professor, law student organization, legal services provider or lawyer-supervisor may nominate an eligible law student or student group activity by submitting a nomination form to the Georgia Access to Justice Committee. Law students also may self-nominate or nominate a fellow law student for this award. Each school may have multiple nominees. Email a completed nomination form to eliseb@gabar.org, or mail the form to Pro Bono Resource Center, State Bar of Georgia, 104 Marietta St., Suite 100, Atlanta, GA 30303. Electronic nominations are encouraged, and all nominations must be received by midnight, **Sept. 30.**

Additional materials such as letters of recommendation or news articles may be included with a nomination. Please limit each nomination to ten pages, including supporting materials.

Nominators should use the attached Nomination Form for guidance.

The synopsis in the **Nomination Form** should clearly identify the services and accomplishments of the nominee in the areas of civil legal services which benefit low-income and poor or marginalized segments of the population, such as migrant farmworkers, persons with disabilities and immigrants. The synopsis should clearly describe the nominee's qualifications for this award.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD HIGHLIGHT, FOR EXAMPLE, THE FOLLOWING:

- If a law student nominee, a passion for advocating for underserved populations, demonstrated by work for that population during law school, and/or intent to practice law on behalf of that population after graduation;
- Substantial performance of civil legal service (as opposed to general public service such as volunteer work for a charity that does not involve the application of legal theories or administrative or court procedure, and supervised by a licensed attorney or under the purvey of an accredited law school);
- Involvement in public service activities.

In evaluating nominees, the selection committee may consider clinical course work and summer law-related activities of a law student.

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Nomination Criteria, Due Sept. 30, 2026

On behalf of the Georgia Access to Justice Committee, the selection committee seeks nominations from the law school and legal services community to recognize a law student who has provided outstanding civil legal public service for poor and underserved segments of the population. Please review the award criteria and nominate a student you believe is deserving of such recognition.

1. Nominee Information

Law Student's Name

Year in Law School

Name of Law Student Organization/Project

Law School Name

Address

Phone Number

Email

2. Nominating Individual's Information

Name of individual making nomination

Position Title

Organization Address

Phone Number

Email

3. Synopsis

A one to two page synopsis describing nominee's qualifications must be attached to the nomination form. See nomination criteria for description of the synopsis. Additional supporting materials may be included with a nomination. Please limit each nomination to 10 pages total.

4. Attachments

Note: Rather than reproducing and attaching web resources, you may provide links to relevant Facebook, LinkedIn or other social media sites or apps that support the nomination. For each link, provide a very brief description of what will be found at the link. Please test your links.