



State Bar of Georgia

Call for Pro Bono Awards Nominations

The Access to Justice Committee and the Pro Bono Project of the State Bar of Georgia invite nominations for the State Bar of Georgia's 2014 Pro Bono Awards.

Each year, the State Bar of Georgia and the Pro Bono Project recognize outstanding contributions of Georgia lawyers to the improvement of the civil legal system and the legal profession *through pro bono publico* service to those unable to afford the services of a lawyer.

2014 Awards Nominees are sought for:

- **The H. Sol Clark Award**
 - **The William B. Spann, Jr. Award**
- **The ABC Business Law Pro Bono Award**
- **The Dan Bradley Legal Services Award**
- **Law School Excellence in Access to Justice Award**

Nominations must be post marked or submitted electronically by April 7, 2014.

The H. Sol Clark Award

**presented by the Access to Justice Committee of the State Bar of Georgia and
the Pro Bono Project of the State Bar of Georgia**

The H. Sol Clark Award is named for former Georgia Court of Appeals Judge Clark of Savannah, who was known as the "father of legal aid in Georgia." The Clark award honors an individual lawyer who has excelled in one or more of a variety of activities which extend legal services to the poor.

H. SOL CLARK AWARD Criteria: (For Individuals) The recipient(s) shall be an attorney admitted to practice in Georgia currently in good standing who has excelled in one or more of the following ways:

- a) Been most instrumental and dedicated to the delivery of civil legal services to the poor through the development of a pro bono program for a bar association or community organization;
- b) Contributed significant work toward developing innovative approaches to delivery of volunteer civil legal services through a new or existing pro bono program sponsored by a bar association or some other organization;
- c) Performed the most significant and meaningful civil pro bono activity which resulted in satisfying previously unmet needs or extending services to underserved segments of the population; and/or
- d) Successfully litigated pro bono civil cases that favorably affected the provision of other services to the poor.

The William B. Spann, Jr. Award

**presented by the Access to Justice Committee of the State Bar of Georgia and
the Pro Bono Project of the State Bar of Georgia**

The Spann Award is given each year either to a local bar association, law firm or a community organization in Georgia which has developed a pro bono program that has satisfied previously unmet needs or extended services to underserved segments of the population. The award is named for a former president of the American Bar Association and former executive director of the State Bar of Georgia.

WILLIAM B. SPANN, JR. AWARD Criteria: (Bar Association/Community Organization) The recipient(s) shall be a bar association, law firm or community organization affiliated with a Georgia admitted attorney in good standing that has:

- a) Developed a civil pro bono program that has satisfied previously unmet needs or extended services to underserved segments of the population;
- b) Demonstrated an effective mechanism in addressing the civil legal needs of the community;

c) Demonstrated a high level of participation and commitment of its members to provision of civil legal services to the poor in the community; and

d) Demonstrated community support and participation in the program.

The A Business Commitment Pro Bono Business Law Award

presented by

The Pro Bono Project of the State Bar of Georgia

The Pro Bono Business Law Award honors the business law pro bono contributions of an individual lawyer, corporate legal department or law firm to the nonprofit community development sector in Georgia.

THE PRO BONO BUSINESS LAW AWARD Criteria: The recipient(s) shall be a full-time attorney admitted to practice in Georgia currently in good standing or a law firm or corporate legal department in Georgia. The recipient shall have excelled in one or more of the following ways:

a) Demonstrating commitment to the development and delivery of legal services to the poor in a business context through a pro bono program by delivering business law services on a pro bono basis to an existing or emerging nonprofit serving the needs of low-income communities in Georgia or to a microenterprise effort within the low-income community in Georgia; or

b) Participating in an activity which results in satisfying previously unmet legal needs of the nonprofit or microenterprise community in a service to low-income Georgians or in extending services to underserved segments of the population outside the metro-Atlanta area.

The Dan Bradley Award

presented by

The Access to Justice Committee of the State Bar of Georgia

The Dan Bradley Award honors the commitment to the delivery of quality legal services of a lawyer of Georgia Legal Services Program or the Atlanta Legal Aid Society.

The award honors the memory of Georgia native and Mercer Law graduate Dan J. Bradley, who was president of the federal Legal Services Corporation.

THE DAN BRADLEY AWARD Criteria: The recipient shall be a full-time attorney, employed by the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc. (ALAS), or the Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP) who has excelled in one or more of the following ways:

a) The number or complexity of cases handled;

b) The impact and benefit for the poor;

c) The origination or implementation of innovative ideas, methods, procedures, or administrative work benefiting the smooth, effective, or efficient operation of ALAS or GLSP and the delivery of legal services to the poor;

d) The quality of negotiations, development of the law, or advocacy used to benefit the poor; or

e) A proven commitment to delivery of quality legal services.

Law School Excellence in Access to Justice Award

Presented by the Access to Justice Committee of the State Bar of Georgia

And the Pro Bono Project of the State Bar of Georgia

Created by the State Bar of Georgia Access to Justice Committee and the State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division (YLD), the Law School Excellence in Access to Justice Award is open to all law students currently enrolled in or graduating from an accredited Georgia law school. The Law School Excellence in Access to Justice Award will recognize an individual law student or law student group or group activity. The 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 Award may also specifically recognize 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 or under the direction of a lawyer or law school program.

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA PRO BONO AWARDS NOMINATION GUIDELINES

A) The Law School Excellence in Access to Justice Award

I. The nomination criteria, instructions and form can be found here:

<http://www.georgiaadvocates.org/link.cfm?22513> .

B) The remaining Pro Bono Awards criteria and directions for nominations (Sol Clark Award, Spann Award, Dan Bradley Award and ABC Award)

Please carefully review the Awards Criteria set out for each award. To ensure completeness of your nomination, it should include:

I. Nominee Information: Information regarding nominees should include name (contact person for law firms or corporate counsel programs), address, telephone number and e-mail address. Individual candidate's resume or a document which describes the candidate's background and other relevant activities should be included. Information that would be helpful includes descriptive list of significant cases or matters, the number of years practicing law, other public service activities.

II. Nomination Narrative: Using as many pages as necessary, explain how the nominee meets the criteria for the pro bono award. Specify the nature of the contribution and identify those who have benefitted. Follow the criteria set out in the description of the appropriate Award.

III. Letters of Support: You should include letters of support from other concerned individuals and organizations that are aware of the candidate's work.

SUBMISSION OF MATERIALS: Send your nominations packet to:

Pro Bono Project
State Bar of Georgia
104 Marietta Street, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303
or to: probono@gabar.org

SELECTION PROCESS: The Committee will review the nominations and select the recipient. All committee decisions will be final and binding. Award recipients will be notified by mid-May 2014.

Nominations must be postmarked or submitted electronically by April 7, 2014.

Electronic submissions are encouraged. E-mail PDF submissions to:

probono@gabar.org.