

Ellen Hines Smith Award Nomination Form

The Ellen Hines Smith Legal Services Lawyer of the Year Award is named in memory of Ellen Hines Smith of Spartanburg. Ellen was the founding director of Piedmont Legal Services. She served as a member of Spartanburg City Council and a municipal court judge. Her entire legal career was devoted to the creation and provision of legal services to the citizens of South Carolina. Her commitment and leadership were recognized both in South Carolina and across the nation. The award is presented to recognize a lawyer who has demonstrated commitment to the development and delivery of quality legal services to the poor in South Carolina through the legal services program.

Award criteria:

- A SC Bar member who is employed as an LSC grantee program lawyer;
- Application made by **November 15th** of each year;
- SC Access to Justice Commission sends nomination solicitations by October 1 of each year;
- Sent to Executive Director of SC Bar Foundation and Executive Director of SC Access to Justice Commission;
- Award winner decided by a joint awards committee of the SC Bar Foundation and SC ATJ Commission, meeting in January each year;
- Provides reasons for nominee to receive award;
- Award jointly presented at SC Bar Foundation Gala;
- Award not necessarily granted every year.

AWARD GUIDELINES DEADLINE:

November 15, 2009

The Ellen Hines Smith Award was established in 1989. It is given to a South Carolina Bar member who is employed as an LSC grantee program lawyer who has demonstrated long-term commitment to legal services and who has personally done significant work in extending legal services to the poor.

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA

General criteria to be used in the selection of the award recipient include one or more of the following:

- Demonstrated dedication to the development and delivery of legal services to the poor through a Legal Services program;
- Quality and creativity in the delivery of legal services to the poor;
- Successful litigation that has benefited significant numbers of indigents or favorably affected the provision of other services to indigents or other innovative actions;
- Commitment to the goals of Legal Services;

- Other public service for the community or the Bar.

NOMINATION PROCESS

The nomination process is as follows:

- A completed nomination form shall be submitted on behalf of each nominee
- In addition to the nomination form, each nomination must include:
 - at least one (1) but no more than five (5) letters in support of the nomination that include citations to reported cases and reference to organizing efforts, successful projects and newspaper or other articles
 - a current résumé or biography that includes work history with dates

If submitting a hard copy nomination: Submit the completed nomination form and supporting materials (25 page limit, single-sided, 8 ½ by 11 inches). Hard copies must be postmarked by **November 15, 2009**.

If submitting by e-mail, the entire nomination including the nomination form and all supporting materials must be submitted electronically in one e-mail communication. E-mailed submissions must be sent by **November 15, 2009** midnight.

SELECTION PROCESS AND AWARD PRESENTATION

All nominees and nominators will be notified of the receipt of submitted nominations. The Award winner will be decided by a joint awards committee of the South Carolina Bar Foundation and the South Carolina Access to Justice Commission after reviewing the nominations.

Decisions regarding the award recipient will be based on the above criteria or comparable achievements and the strength of the supporting letters.

The award will be presented during the Annual Gala of the South Carolina Bar Foundation.

Previous award recipients are not eligible.

PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS

1989 – Martha B. Dicus

1990 – Thomas L. Bruce

1991 – Johnny Simpson

1992 – Harold F. Daniels

1993 – Andrea E. Loney

1994 – Mozella Nicholson

1995 – Thomas A. Trent

1996 – Susan A. Cross

1997 – Angela M. Myers

1998 – Ethel E. Weinberg

1999 – Nancy M. Butler

2000 – Byron A. Reid

2001 – Lynn P. Wagner

2002 – Eddie McConnell

2003 – Frank Cannon

2004 – Willie B. Heyward

2005 – Lynn Snowber-Marini

2006 – Eddie McConnell

2007 - Marcia Powell-Shew

NOMINATION FORM DEADLINE:

November 15, 2009

THE COMPLETED NOMINATION FORM WITH SUPPORTING MATERIALS (25 PAGE LIMIT, 8 ½ BY 11 INCHES, SINGLE-SIDED) MUST BE POSTMARKED BY **NOVEMBER 15, 2009** OR AN ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION BY E-MAIL OF THE COMPLETED NOMINATION FORM AND ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MIDNIGHT **NOVEMBER 15, 2009**.

Name of Nominee:

Nominee's Address:

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Please answer the following questions on separate sheets and attach the sheets and the required supporting materials to the nomination form (incomplete nomination packages will be returned for required information):

1. Describe the accomplishments of the nominee towards the development and delivery of legal services to the poor
2. Describe any litigation that benefited the poor
3. Explain the nominee's demonstrated long-term commitment to providing legal services
4. Attach a current résumé or biography with work history, educational background and dates
5. Include at least one letter (but no more than five) in support of the nomination

Name of Nominator

Relationship to Nominee (or self-nominating):

Organization or Firm:

Address:

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

If submitting by hard copy, send one the completed nomination form and supporting materials (25 page limit, single-sided, 8 ½ by 11 inches) postmarked by NOVEMBER 15, 2009 to:

Robin F. Wheeler
SC Access to Justice Commission
PO Box 608
Columbia, SC 29202-0608

If submitting by e-mail: email the entire nomination including the nomination form and all supporting materials in one e-mail by midnight NOVEMBER 15, 2009 to rwheeler@sbar.org

Contact: Robin F. Wheeler (803) 576-3808