



# Fellows of the Indiana Bar Foundation Legendary Lawyer Award Guidelines

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The annual Legendary Lawyer Award was created to spotlight individuals whose career commitments in areas such as legal ethics, community involvement, public service, and lawyer professionalism demonstrate the high calling and higher achievement of lawyers in modern society.

## **Eligibility**

This award is annually presented to a member of the Fellows of the Indiana Bar Foundation whose contributions demonstrate genuine professionalism and the highest standards of the legal profession. Nominees should demonstrate the highest principles and traditions of the legal profession, compassion through service to the public in the community in which he or she lives, and practical skills in the practice of law through a legal career of **50 years or more**.

**NOTE:** All Fellows previously nominated are automatically reconsidered as candidates for each year's award and need not be re-nominated regardless of the length of time since their original submission. However additional supporting materials for those previously nominated individuals are continuously accepted through the December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Nominators are strongly encouraged to have the initial nomination as complete as possible.

In addition, the selection committee can affirmatively nominate eligible candidates who have otherwise not had a nomination submitted. Previous recipients may be viewed on the Indiana Bar Foundation's website at [www.inbf.org/grants-awards](http://www.inbf.org/grants-awards).

## **Criteria for Evaluation**

The Committee will evaluate the nominations based on the following criteria:

### Legal Activity

- Peer respect and recognition
- Service to Bar organizations
- Recognition from local community for professional excellence
- Service to the Judiciary
- Charitable and public service activity related to the law
- Legal writing and publications

### Community Activity

- Charitable activity in the local community
- Recognition from the local community for public service
- Service organization activity
- Service on public boards
- Service to religious institutions
- Local political activity

Although significant contributions to the work of the organized bar merit strong consideration in the evaluation of nominees for the award, significant scholarly contributions made in academic settings, creative judicial or legislative initiatives undertaken to advance the professionalism of lawyers, and other related types of contributions also justify submission of nominations.

**Indiana Bar Foundation**  
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[www.inbf.org](http://www.inbf.org)

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## Nomination Procedures

1. Nominees must be Fellows of the Foundation in good standing who have practiced law at least 50 years. Nominators must submit nominations online on the Fellow's behalf and include attachments. In the case of videos, podcasts or other non-printed support materials, ask staff for best method to share if electronic links are no longer active.
2. Include a statement of support explaining your reason for nominating the individual. Please include a brief summary page for submissions of moderate or great length.
3. Numerous submissions from multiple nominators for the same nominee are encouraged to get a broader perspective on the nominee's overall achievements and activities, which relate to the selection criteria.
4. Letters of support from members of the Indiana Bar are *strongly* recommended.
5. All award entries must be received on or before **December 31<sup>st</sup>** annually. In 2018 the Foundation converted to an online submission process for nominations. Please send all supporting documents in one .pdf file [here](#).
6. Each calendar year a committee will review nominations previously submitted regardless of the length of time since their original submission. The Committee will be permitted to add any eligible Fellows who have not yet been nominated as of the December 31<sup>st</sup>, who the Committee feels would be worthy of the award. Any nominees the Committee identifies must have a Nomination Form and supporting materials for consideration in order for the individual to be considered for the award by the Committee.
7. The Committee will recommend to the Board of Directors of the Foundation one individual from the list of nominated individuals considered to receive the award. The recipient will be informed of his/her selection after board approval. The goal is for these actions to take place in the first quarter of each calendar year.
8. The winner of the Legendary Lawyer Award will be recognized at a special recognition event in the recipient's home town to celebrate his or her career with colleagues and friends where the award will be officially presented. All Fellows will be invited to the event.
9. Any questions should be directed to the Executive Director of the Indiana Bar Foundation. Previous recipients and an electronic copy of the nomination materials can be found on the Foundation's website at [www.inbf.org/grants-awards](http://www.inbf.org/grants-awards).

Questions should be addressed to the Indiana Bar Foundation: [info@inbf.org](mailto:info@inbf.org) or 317-269-2415.

Submit your nomination [here](#).