

## **OUTSTANDING STATE LEAGUE COUNSEL AWARD**

IMLA established this award to honor those attorneys who serve as counsel to their state league of cities or association of counties, towns or other local government entities and who are recognized for their valued service to the members of their organizations and for their skills as attorneys. Like other IMLA awards, this award expects the recipient to exhibit the traditional qualities of excellence in the practice of law, but also seeks to recognize a practitioner who has provided outstanding service to local governments and who possesses an exemplary reputation in the legal community, the highest of ethical standards and who is devoted to improving local governments.

The Awards Committee supports the goal of diversity in the membership and leadership of the profession. As such, promoting and achieving diversity is considered carefully in selecting a person to receive this award. To be eligible, a nominee must meet the following criteria:

- To be selected a nominee must be in-house or outside counsel to a state league or association of local governments or special districts that is a member of IMLA.
- The nominee must have substantial experience in representing the state league or association.
- The nominee must be an active participant in IMLA.
- Although the nominee's excellent qualities and service exemplified throughout their years of practice will be taken into consideration, the award primarily recognizes outstanding achievements during the course of the preceding year.

The following qualities either in the course of the past year or during the course of the nominee's practice may be considered by the Awards Committee in its selection of the recipient of the State League or Association Counsel Award (as this is an annual award, emphasis will be placed on those features that have occurred during the past year):

- Demonstrated commitment of the nominee to the practice of local government law and in representing the nominee's association and helping its members.
- Use of innovative or creative problem-solving by the nominee in the nominee's practice.
- Demonstrated commitment to serving local governments and teaching local government law to the nominee's association's members.
- Scholarly publications or presentations that foster the development and understanding of municipal law.
- Exceptional accomplishments by the nominee in serving local governments or the nominee's association.
- Contributions by the nominee to the public and to the legal profession, above and beyond his or her occupational duties.
- Exceptional legislative achievement.
- Exhibits high level of professionalism and exemplary integrity, diligence and personal conduct.