



## **Brown, Mulligan, Rocha Distinguished Public Service Award**

### **CRITERIA**

*The following are all of the criteria against which each nominee will be measured. The Board of Directors does not expect any nominee to meet all of the criteria. However, the nominee who best meets the most criteria will be selected as that year's recipient. How the nominee meets the criteria should be thoroughly described in the nominator's statement in support of the nomination and in the letters of endorsement of the nominee. IMLA reserves the right to withhold bestowal of the award in any given year and to reject any and all nominees. Nominators may re-submit nominations from previous years, if appropriate. The award will be presented to the person selected to receive the award at a formal awards ceremony held during that year's IMLA Annual Conference.*

1. The nominee has realized significant and surpassing achievements in the field of local government law that have occurred or culminated during the previous year. The achievements have benefited all local government attorneys, both locally and nationally. (For example, the achievement might have been the successful representation of municipal interests before state trial and appellate courts or federal district and circuit courts, or in the United States Supreme Court, or in legislative, judicial, quasi-judicial, administrative or advisory roles. As another example, the achievement might have been embodied in other demonstrations of legal ability, such as written or oral rhetorical skills; skill in drafting ordinances and other technical legal documents; or expertise in particular areas of substantive or procedural law. These examples are not intended to limit the kinds of achievements that would warrant consideration.)
2. The nominee's achievements have brought new and inspiring ideas to IMLA's national and international programs and activities.
3. The nominee's achievements have enhanced the image of the local government attorney both locally and nationally, especially in the courts at all levels. (Objective, results-oriented information should be provided showing how the nominee's achievements enhanced the esteem in which local government attorneys are held by courts at all levels, and how the achievements benefited the entire IMLA organization.)
4. The nominee has received recognition either locally or nationally or both for these achievements.

5. The nominee's achievements demonstrate the personal characteristics of integrity, honesty, leadership, selflessness, dedication, tact, diplomacy, political acuity, and astuteness in dealing with the news media and the public. (Cite examples).
6. The nominee's achievements have been promulgated to their colleagues through the presentation of papers on the subject matter of the achievements or through participation on panels at programs sponsored by local, state and /or national professional associations.
7. This nomination must be made by an IMLA member.
8. In selecting a recipient of this award, the Awards Committee may consider IMLA membership as a factor in selecting the recipient if choosing between equally qualified nominees.

## **ORIGIN AND PURPOSE OF THE AWARD**

This award is established to honor a local government attorney for significant and surpassing achievements in the field of local government law occurring or culminating in the previous year. The award is authorized by Article VI, Section 6 of the IMLA Bylaws.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. The nominator must furnish basic information about the nominee by completing the attached nomination form or by furnishing the information called for on the form in a substantially identical format.
2. The nominator needs to write a clear and concise statement in support of the nomination describing the significant and surpassing professional achievements in the field of local government law that have occurred or culminated during the previous year, conveying as much information about the personal characteristics of the nominee as the nominator thinks would be helpful to the nomination, and thoroughly describing how the nominee fulfills the criteria established for bestowing the award (see "Criteria," below).
3. The nominator must solicit and secure no fewer than three letters of endorsement of the nominee. The nominator should consider carefully the persons chosen to write the letters endorsing the nominee. Each letter should clearly and concisely convey information about the significant and surpassing professional achievements of the nominee in the field of local government law occurring or culminating in the previous year and the personal characteristics of the nominee, and should thoroughly describe how the nominee fulfills the criteria established for bestowing the award (see "Criteria," below). Letters of endorsement from the executive director or the chief legal counsel of the appropriate state league, from the appropriate IMLA State Chair, and from the appropriate IMLA Regional Vice President will carry great weight.
4. The nominator must submit the completed nomination form, the statement in support of

the nomination, and the three letters of endorsement to the IMLA Executive Director who, after adding IMLA staff comments, forwards these materials to the IMLA Awards Committee for its recommendation. The Awards Committee will then review the nomination and submit its recommendation to the IMLA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will decide whether to make the award and the Executive Director will notify the nominator of the Board's decision.

**Please be aware that fully completed nominations must arrive at the IMLA offices by no later than the established deadline for that year in order to be considered. IMLA reserves the right to withhold bestowal of the award in any given year and to reject any and all nominees.**