



William I. Thornton, Jr. IMLA Faculty Award

IMLA established this award to honor the memory of **William I. Thornton, Jr.** by recognizing a person dedicated to IMLA and to the practice of local government law and who has participated as a member of the IMLA faculty in helping local government attorneys learn about or reaffirm their knowledge of issues important to their practice of local government law.

In addition to the traditional qualities of excellence in the practice of law, the award seeks to recognize a practitioner who has provided outstanding service to the public and who possesses an exemplary reputation in the legal community, the highest of ethical standards and who is devoted to mentoring young lawyers and educating lawyers in local government law.

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 have been a member of the IMLA faculty at a conference, seminar or other educational program.
- The nominee must have substantial knowledge of local government law.
- The nominee must be an active participant in IMLA's activities.
- 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 William H. Thornton, Jr. 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 teaching local government attorneys.
- Demonstrated commitment to mentoring and teaching young lawyers to enhance their skills and knowledge of the law.
- Scholarly publications or presentations that foster the development and understanding of municipal law.
- Exceptional accomplishments by the nominee in the practice of public law.
- Contributions by the nominee to the public and to the legal profession, above and beyond his or her occupational duties.
- Exhibits high level of professionalism and exemplary integrity, diligence and personal conduct.