



Justice William J. Brennan Jr. AWARD

The District of Columbia Bar is seeking nominations for the 2025 recipient of the Justice William J. Brennan Jr. Award.

The award recognizes a member of the D.C. Bar who has shown extraordinary commitment and initiative in pursuing equal justice and opportunity for all Americans.

The award was established in 1993 and is presented in alternating years as the William J. Brennan Jr. Award or Thurgood Marshall Award. The D.C. Bar seeks a candidate who has demonstrated exceptional achievement in the pursuit of equal justice in the areas of civil rights, individual liberties, and the public interest, and who has made a significant, positive impact on the quality of administration of justice.

The Brennan Award will be presented at the 2025 Celebration of Leadership: the D.C. Bar's Annual Meeting and Awards Presentation, to be held on June 26, 2025.

ALL NOMINEES MUST BE MEMBERS OF THE D.C. BAR.

To nominate a qualified candidate, please submit a copy of the nominee's résumé and the nomination form. Nominations for the 2025 William J. Brennan Jr. Award may be submitted online by completing the form on the Bar's website at www.dcb.org/about/awards.

DEADLINE: February 5, 2025

For more information, please e-mail awards@dcb.org or visit our website at www.dcb.org/about/awards.

The Bar believes in the importance and value of public service, and we present the Brennan Award biennially with the admiration and gratitude of our legal community.

BRENNAN AWARD RECIPIENTS

- 1993 Elaine R. Jones, *Director-Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund*
- 1994 Marcia D. Greenberger and Nancy Duff Campbell, *Co-Presidents, National Women's Law Center*
- 1995 Alan B. Morrison, *Staff Attorney, Public Citizen Litigation Group*
- 1996 Hon. William B. Bryant, *U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia*
- 1997 Antonia Hernandez, *President and General Counsel, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)*
- 1998 John H. Pickering, *D.C. Bar President 1979-80; (Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering)*
- 1999 Hon. John M. Ferren, *Senior Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals*
- 2000 James M. Nabrit III, *former Associate Director and Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund*
- 2001 Charles T. Duncan, *D.C. Bar President 1973-74; Trustee, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund*
- 2002 Wade Henderson, *Executive Director, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights*
- 2003 Hon. Ruth Bader Ginsburg, *Supreme Court of the United States*
- 2005 Peter B. Edelman, *Professor, Georgetown University Law Center; Chair, Access to Justice Commission*
- 2007 James W. Klein, *Chief of the Appellate Division, Public Defender Service of the District of Columbia*
- 2009 Patricia "Patty" Mullahy Fugere, *Co-founder, Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless; Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University Law Center; Access to Justice Commission*
- 2011 Maureen Thornton Syracuse, *Executive Director, D.C. Bar Pro Bono Program*
- 2013 Walter A. Smith Jr., *Executive Director, D.C. Appleseed Center for Law and Justice*
- 2015 James J. Sandman, *President, Legal Services Corporation*
- 2017 Jonathan M. Smith, *Executive Director, Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights & Urban Affairs*
- 2019 Michele Zavos, *Delaney McKinney LLP*
- 2021 David Reiser, *Zuckerman Spaeder LLP*
- 2023 Jon S. Bouker, *ArentFoxSchiff LLP*