

B. Riney Green Award: Access to Justice Award

PURPOSE

This award is a way to recognize and emphasize the value the access to justice community has for a particular kind of accomplishment – one that promotes state-wide collaboration on a project beyond one organization and strengthens access to justice across the state.

HISTORY

One of the strengths of the provision of legal service in Tennessee has been the historic tradition of working together, across program lines, to address common problems that clients and programs face. To recognize and encourage those efforts, a person who promotes inter-program cooperation or otherwise strengthens the provision of legal aid in Tennessee is annually named the B. Riney Green Award recipient.

In the late 1990s B. Riney Green, a Nashville attorney, relentlessly led Tennessee’s effort to prevent the U.S. House and Senate from adopting provisions that would reduce funding to legal services and increase restrictions on legal aid programs. As a corporate lawyer and a Republican, he was a new and credible voice in this effort. He successfully engaged others in his effort and had access to representatives from across the party and ideological spectrum. His efforts in this state not only improved relations with the Congressional delegation, but were essential to the successful national effort to resist these legislative attacks.



This award is named to honor his contribution at a critical time in the history of legal

services in Tennessee and the nation.

HOW TO NOMINATE SOMEONE

Nominations are currently closed.

PAST WINNERS

| | |
|------|---|
| 2024 | Amy Willoughby Bryant |
| 2023 | Allison Jones & Chancellor Ellen Hobbs Lytle |
| 2022 | Tessa Lemos Del Pino, Bethany Jackson & Karla McKanders |
| 2021 | No Award Given |
| 2020 | Spring Miller & Emily Stotts |
| 2019 | Jeannie Kosciolek |
| 2018 | Marcia Eason & Gary Housepian |
| 2017 | Carol Gish & Ashley Holliday |
| 2016 | Craig Barnes & Russell Fowler |
| 2015 | Lenny Croce |
| 2014 | Theresa Vay-Smith |
| 2013 | Gordon Bonnyman & Harrison McIver III |
| 2012 | Margaret Behm |
| 2011 | Beth Bates & Russ Overby |
| 2010 | David Tarpley |
| 2009 | Adinah Robertson |
| 2008 | Pam Ford Wright & Bill Bush |

| | |
|------|---|
| 2007 | Frank Cantrell |
| 2006 | Sherry Wilds |
| 2005 | Jennifer Jean Rosenbaum & Steve Xanthopoulos |
| 2004 | Mary Michelle Gillum |
| 2003 | Doug Blaze |
| 2002 | Pat Mock |
| 2001 | Stewart Clifton, Bill Haley & Mike Murphy |
| 2000 | Linda Seely & Patti George |
| 1999 | Bonnie King, Gloria Samuels & Christine Wolfe |

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