

Janice M. Holder Award: Access to Justice Award

PURPOSE

The Janice M. Holder Award seeks to recognize a professional whose work in private practice, corporate practice, public service or other social service has made significant contributions in advancing the quality of justice statewide by ensuring the legal system is open and available to all. This award is intended for professionals not focused on daily legal aid advocacy.

HISTORY

This Access to Justice Award is named in honor of retired Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Janice M. Holder who personifies the qualities that this Award recognizes. She served as the first female chief justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court, is a passionate leader in Tennessee's Access to Justice initiative, a courageous champion of the rights of the historically marginalized, and a dedicated servant to the people of this state. In 2008, the Tennessee Supreme Court launched its Access to Justice Initiative. Under her leadership, the court hired a full-time access to justice coordinator, created the website - www.justiceforalltn.com, and created the Access to Justice Commission. She is the 2014 winner of the William M. Leech Jr. Public Service Award and continues to support access to justice causes in her retirement.



HOW TO NOMINATE SOMEONE

Nominations are currently closed.

PAST AWARD WINNERS

| | |
|------|--|
| 2024 | Lucinda Smith |
| 2023 | Judge Suzanne Bauknight |
| 2022 | J. Houston Gordon and Zulfat Suara |
| 2021 | Judge Rachel Bell |
| 2020 | Justice Cornelia A. Clark |
| 2019 | Deborah Taylor Tate |
| 2018 | Former Justice Frank F. Drowota, III & Amber Floyd |
| 2017 | Larry Bridgesmith & Cat Moon |
| 2016 | Jim Barry & Sharon Ryan |
| 2015 | David R. Yoder |
| 2014 | George T. "Buck" Lewis (inaugural winner) |

[Return to the Access to Justice Awards page.](#)

[Return to the Equal Justice University homepage.](#)

Last updated on September 04, 2024.

Print

Table of Contents

NEWS

News & publications

The news about recent activities for needed peoples.

[More News](#)

2 Aug 2024

Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services Seeks Part-Time Civil Legal Helpline Staff Attorney

Job SummaryAre you looking for a part-time position where you can serve clients...

[Continue Reading](#)

20 Feb 2024

Memphis Area Legal Services Seeks New Executive Director

Position Description: Memphis Area Legal Services (MALS) seeks an...

[Continue Reading](#)