

Call for Nominations
2017 Diversity & Inclusion Champion Award
2017 Diversity & Inclusion Sponsor Award

Presented by the Ohio Women's Bar Association's Diversity & Inclusion Committee

The Ohio Women's Bar Association's Diversity and Inclusion Committee is pleased to recognize the exceptional efforts of individuals and organizations promoting the full and equal participation of diverse attorneys at all levels of the legal profession, with a particular focus on women, including women of color.

The Committee will present the **Diversity & Inclusion *Champion Award*** to one company, firm or professional organization for its demonstrated leadership and sustained commitment to diversity and inclusion. The Committee will present the **Diversity & Inclusion *Sponsor Award*** to one legal professional who has individually championed the careers of women attorneys and the topic of diversity and inclusion.

Criterion for each award can be found below or by visiting www.owba.org. The awards will be presented during the Ohio Women's Bar Association's Annual Meeting and Luncheon on May 12, 2017.

Deadline: Nominations Will Be Accepted until **Friday, March 17, 2017.**

Please e-mail a PDF of your completed nomination form(s) and attachments to admin@owba.org. **If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your nomination(s), please contact OWBA Association Executive, Kay Lowe at (866) 932-OWBA (6922).**

Criteria for the Diversity & Inclusion *Champion Award*

The Ohio Women's Bar Association's Diversity and Inclusion Committee seeks to recognize a *law firm, company or other legal organization* that has a demonstrated commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion within the profession. The Committee will consider an applicant's trailblazing efforts in one or more of the following ways:

1. Promoting inclusive workplaces. For example, creating affinity groups, diversity committees, or otherwise increasing opportunities for diverse individuals in the profession, including the judiciary, with a particular focus on women, including women of color.
2. Supporting and encouraging diverse individuals to reach their legal career and personal goals and ensuring opportunities for the advancement of women attorneys. For example, serving as a firm or association leader, or mentor or other participant in one or more pipeline programs.
3. Creating organizational change and establishing an inclusive work environment. For example, fostering leadership development, innovation and knowledge sharing aimed at enhancing the status of diverse individuals in the legal profession, providing research and study or development of educational programming on issues of importance to diverse individuals throughout the legal community.
4. Publicizing the distinct and vital contributions diverse individuals make to the legal profession. For example, promoting pro bono legal representation and service to diversity causes and enhancing opportunities on behalf of diverse individuals in the Ohio Women's Bar Association or other bar associations, and advocating for the rights of those from diverse backgrounds.
5. Using the organization's power and resources to advance the position of diverse individuals in the legal profession and in their community. For example, exhibiting efforts to diversify the legal profession through community involvement, collaboration amongst members of the legal and civic community, and corporate or law firm commitments to diversity.



2017 Diversity & Inclusion Champion Award Nomination Form

Name of Law Firm, Corporation or Professional Organization: _____

Name of Representative (s) Submitting Form: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Has the organization won any award recognizing its diversity efforts from any other organization? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please detail below:

****Please attach:**

A supporting statement, of no longer than 1000 words, describing how and why the company, law firm or organization deserves the Diversity Champion Award. Include information that relates to the above criteria and other details, such as the quantitative and qualitative impact of the firm of the candidate's trailblazing efforts.

Criteria for the Diversity & Inclusion *Sponsor Award*

The Ohio Women's Bar Association's Diversity and Inclusion Committee seeks to recognize an *individual* who has demonstrated an individual commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion within the profession, particularly through support and sponsorship of diverse attorneys. The Committee will consider an individual's efforts in one or more of the following ways:

1. Participating in affinity groups, diversity committees, or other efforts designed to increase opportunities for diverse individuals in the profession, with a particular focus on women, including women of color.
2. Supporting and encouraging diverse individuals to reach their legal career and personal goals and ensuring opportunities for the advancement of diverse attorneys through direct mentorship and sponsorship.
3. Creating organizational change and establishing an inclusive work environment. For example, creating, leading or supporting educational programming on issues of importance to diverse individuals throughout the legal community and encouraging diverse representation in all substantive work and programming.
4. Participating in or supporting the Ohio Women's Bar Association or other diverse bar associations.
5. Using resources to advance the position of diverse individuals at every level of the legal profession. For example, providing diverse attorneys with quality work and leadership opportunities.



2017 Diversity & Inclusion *Sponsor* Award Nomination Form

Nominator: _____

Title & Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Nominee: _____

Title & Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

****Please attach:**

A supporting statement of no longer than 1000 words, describing:

- 1. Your reasons for nominating the individual, including first hand experiences and observations; and**
- 2. information that relates to the above criteria and other details;**

Optional: While not required, the committee will consider supporting letters from other legal professionals inside or outside your organization who are aware of the individual's contribution to the profession and support the individual's nomination.