

THE ROBYN J. SPALTER OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Purpose of the Award and the Program

The award is intended to stimulate and encourage, by Federal Bar Association (“FBA” or “Association”)-wide recognition, meaningful legal, community, public and/or charitable service by members of the Association who joined as “younger attorneys” (as defined by the Younger Lawyers Division’s (“YLD”) Bylaws).

The primary goal of the award’s Program is to encourage younger members of the federal bar to attain and uphold high standards of professional achievement by bestowing upon them public recognition for their important efforts.

The YLD Outstanding Achievement Award is not duplicative of the YLD Younger Federal Lawyers Award because an award applicant need not be employed by the U.S. government to be eligible. Further, the YLD Outstanding Achievement Award is not duplicative of the Earl W. Kintner Award for Distinguished Service. Stated previously, the YLD Outstanding Achievement honors FBA members who began their involvement with the FBA as “younger attorneys” and achieved success in the FBA and in their legal career.

Namesake of the Award

The namesake of the YLD Outstanding Achievement Award Committee is the late National FBA President Robyn J. Spalter. Robyn embodied the essence of the YLD Outstanding Achievement Award because as she climbed the national FBA leadership ladder to become President, she “always focused on the importance of new and younger lawyers and the role that they would play in the future growth of the FBA.” Matthew Moreland, In Memoriam: Robyn J. Spalter Past President of the Federal Bar Association, THE FEDERAL LAWYER, August 2012, at 15. Robyn inspired many and through the YLD Outstanding Achievement Award, the YLD knows that she will continue to inspire others. Robyn’s service to the FBA continues to be felt today. Sadly, Robyn passed away on May 28, 2012, doing one of her beloved pastimes, scuba diving. Given Robyn’s extensive leadership and achievement within the FBA and her untimely passing (well before her 50th birthday), it is most appropriate to honor Robyn by naming the YLD Outstanding Achievement Award after her.

Eligibility Requirements

Any member of the Association who has been in good standing for at least three consecutive years at the time of nomination is eligible with the following conditions and exceptions:

- The nominee has (or has had) sustained, general accomplishment over a period of time that includes service at least three years immediately prior to the nomination in the individual chapter, section, or division through which leadership was provided; or
- The nominee has a specific accomplishment that resulted in a significant contribution.
 - If the nomination is offered based on a specific accomplishment, the nominee must have served in such a capacity during the prior year.
 - The accomplishment(s) must reflect exceptional leadership and activity management enhancing the goals of the Association in one or more of the following areas:

- understanding and development of federal law
 - community or public service
 - administration of justice
 - welfare of federal attorneys
 - organizational management and leadership qualities effectively motivating and utilizing voluntary efforts of members.
- No nominee will be considered unless he or she will have been a member of the FBA for at least 7 years as of September 1st of the current fiscal year;
 - No nominee will be considered if he or she was older than 36 and/or had been practicing more than 5 years when he or she became a member of the FBA; and
 - No nominee will be considered if he or she is currently or formerly a nationally elected officer, including vice presidents for the circuits, section or division chair, or a national officer or member of the Younger Lawyers Division Board of Directors until 2 years after his or her last term of service.

Nominations

All nominations must conform to each of the following requirements:

- The nomination must be submitted on standard 8 1/2" x 11" sheets, double-spaced. Exhibits are not to be attached.
- The nomination must have a cover letter that includes contact information (phone number, facsimile number and mailing address) for the nominee and the nominator.
- The first paragraph shall state the following: 1) the name, date of birth, and official business address of the nominee; 2) the total number of years during which he or she has been a member of the FBA; and 3) the date that he or she became a member of the FBA.
- The following paragraphs of the nomination shall develop and expand on the substantive reasons why the nominee is believed to qualify. Specificity is extremely important.
- The nomination shall not exceed five pages in length. Cover letters are not included in this length. No nomination which exceeds five, double-spaced, 8 1/2" x 11" pages will be sent to the YLD Board for consideration.
- Nominations will require the signatures of any two federal attorneys or officials (civilian or military). Nominators' signatures and their official addresses shall be placed on the last page of the nomination.

Determination of the Award

The YLD Outstanding Achievement Award Committee will review all nominee submissions. Upon completion of review, the Committee will select at least five of the submissions to be reviewed by the entire YLD Board. The YLD Board will then individually select one of the five nominees to receive an award. The nominee with the most votes will receive the YLD Outstanding Achievement Award.

Nature of the Award

The award recipient will receive a plaque and his or her name shall be inscribed on a permanent plaque displayed at the National Headquarters of the FBA.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES AND PRESENTATION OF AWARD

All submissions must be sent electronically to awards@fedbar.org on or before June 2, 2014. Please do not send hard copies of the submission.

The subject line of the email submission must be in the following format:

“Spalter Award – *Name of Nominee*”

The award will be presented during the Annual Meeting and Convention. If the recipient is unable to attend, a representative may be designated to accept the award. Please contact the Federal Bar Association at (571) 481-9100 if you have any questions.