



Federal Bar Association

Younger Lawyers Division

Memo

To: All Judges, General Counsel, Chief Counsel, Chairpersons, Staff Directors and
U.S. Attorneys

From: David Goodwin and Melissa Manning - YFLA Co-Chairs

Date: June 18, 2013

Re: Younger Federal Lawyer Award Nominations

It is with great pleasure that we write to remind you of the Annual Younger Federal Lawyer Awards (“YFLA”) Program of the Federal Bar Association. Each year, five outstanding attorneys employed by the United States Government are selected for this national award due to their significant contributions to the legal profession and/or their respective communities.

Included are the application directions for the 2013 YFLA Program. We urge all of you to nominate any deserving younger lawyers under your supervision who you deem worthy of such recognition. Please circulate and distribute the attached application to your colleagues. All nominations must be submitted by July 16, 2013. If you have any questions, please contact Sherwin Valerio the Manager of Sections and Divisions of the Federal Bar Association at (571) 481-9108 or svalerio@fedbar.org.

With your help, we hope to continue the success of this program. All award winners will be recognized at the Federal Bar Association National Convention in San Juan, Puerto Rico in September. Thank you for your anticipated assistance.

2013 YOUNGER FEDERAL LAWYER AWARDS

Purpose of the Awards Program

The primary goal of this program is to encourage younger federal lawyers throughout the nation and overseas to attain high standards of professional achievement and to accord public recognition for outstanding performance.

Basis of Awards

The following criteria are suggested for the guidance of the judges in selecting nominees. They are not intended to be all-inclusive, nor is the absence of any deemed to be a disqualifying factor:

- **Professional Achievements.** A nominee may be qualified by outstanding legal ability and performance over a sustained period, or because of a specific accomplishment for which he or she is primarily responsible. Regardless of whether the achievements are of a general or a specific nature, they should have resulted in a significant benefit to the federal government and the legal profession and contributed to the development of public law.
- **Professional and Community Responsibilities.** A nominee may also be qualified because of a significant contribution to the legal profession and/or community not necessarily required by the nominee's government position.

Eligibility Requirements

Any civilian or military attorney who is employed by the U.S. government shall be eligible to receive an award except that:

- No nominee will be considered if he or she has reached or will reach the age of 36 before September 22, 2013;
- No nominee will be considered if, at the time the award is presented, he or she has served with the government as an attorney less than three continuous years;
- No nominee will be considered for an award if the services constituting the primary basis for his or her nomination were required because of a political consideration; and
- All national officers and members of the Younger Lawyers Division Board of Directors are ineligible to receive an award.

2013 YOUNGER FEDERAL LAWYER AWARDS APPLICATION

Nominations

All nominations must be received on or before July 16, 2013 and must conform to each of the following requirements:

- The nomination shall be emailed to Sherwin Valerio at svalerio@fedbar.org. A hard copy must also be submitted on standard 8 1/2" x 11" sheets, double-spaced. Exhibits are not to be attached.
- The nominations must have a cover letter which includes contact information (phone number, facsimile number and mailing address) for the nominee.
- 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 served in the U.S. government; and 3) the departments or agencies in which he or she served or is presently serving.
- 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 and will not be transmitted to the panel of judges. No nomination which exceeds five, double-spaced, 8 1/2" x 11" pages will be sent to the judges for consideration.
- Nominations will require the signatures of any three federal attorneys or officials (civilian or military). Nominators' signatures and their official addresses shall be placed on the last page of the nomination.

Please indicate if the nominator is currently a member of the FBA or if the nominee is currently a member of the FBA. If either the nominator or nominee is not currently a member of the FBA, please indicate if they are interested in joining the FBA. Member in the FBA is not a prerequisite for entry or selection and it will not have a bearing on nominee selection.

All nominations should be sent to: Younger Federal Lawyer Awards Committee, Federal Bar Association, 1220 North Fillmore Street, Suite 444, Arlington, VA 22201 and emailed to Sherwin Valerio at svalerio@fedbar.org. **Remember to submit all nominations on or before July 16, 2013.** For further information, contact Sherwin Valerio at (571) 481-9100.

Awards will be presented to the five winners during the 2013 Annual Meeting and Convention in San Juan, PR. The winners will be contacted directly.