



## Judicial Council of California · Administrative Office of the Courts

455 Golden Gate Avenue · San Francisco, California 94102-3688

[www.courts.ca.gov](http://www.courts.ca.gov)

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# REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

For business meeting on June 26, 2014

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<b>Title</b>	<b>Agenda Item Type</b>
Distinguished Service Awards: Recipients for 2014	Action Required
<b>Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
None	June 26, 2014
<b>Recommended by</b>	<b>Date of Report</b>
Executive and Planning Committee	June 13, 2014
Hon. Douglas P. Miller, Chair	<b>Contact</b>
Rules and Projects Committee	Sue Oliker, 415-865-7635
Hon. Harry E. Hull, Jr., Chair	<a href="mailto:susan.oliker@jud.ca.gov">susan.oliker@jud.ca.gov</a>
Policy Coordination and Liaison Committee	
Hon. Kenneth K. So, Chair	
Judicial Council Technology Committee	
Hon. James E. Herman, Chair	
Litigation Management Committee	
Hon. Mary Ann O'Malley, Chair	

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### Executive Summary

The chairs of the five Judicial Council internal committees—the Executive and Planning Committee, the Rules and Projects Committee, the Policy Coordination and Liaison Committee, the Judicial Council Technology Committee, and the Litigation Management Committee—recommend approving the recommended recipients of the 2014 Judicial Council of California Distinguished Service Awards. These annual awards, the highest honors bestowed by the judicial branch, recognize individuals who exemplify the leadership strengths that create significant and positive contributions to court administration in California. Following council approval, the awards will be presented at a ceremony to take place on Thursday, August 21, 2014, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., in conjunction with the August Judicial Council meeting.

## **Recommendation**

The chairs of the Executive and Planning Committee, the Rules and Projects Committee, the Policy Coordination and Liaison Committee, the Judicial Council Technology Committee, and the Litigation Management Committee recommend that the Judicial Council approve the recipients of the 2014 Distinguished Service Awards—the Ronald M. George Award for Judicial Excellence, the William C. Vickrey Leadership in Judicial Administration Award, the Bernard E. Witkin Amicus Curiae Award, the Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award, the Richard D. Huffman Justice for Children & Families Award, and the Excellence in Judicial Education Award—according to the recommendations distributed at this meeting.<sup>1</sup>

## **Previous Council Action**

This is the 21st year that the Judicial Council will award the Distinguished Service Awards for significant and positive contributions to court administration in California.

## **Rationale for Recommendation**

Award recipients are selected for the following qualities and achievements:

- The Ronald M. George Award for Judicial Excellence honors members of the judiciary for their extraordinary dedication to the highest principles of the administration of justice statewide.
- The William C. Vickrey Leadership in Judicial Administration Award honors individuals in judicial administration for significant statewide contributions to and leadership in their profession.
- The Bernard E. Witkin Amicus Curiae Award honors individuals other than members of the judiciary for their outstanding contributions to the courts of California.
- The Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award honors individuals from federal, state, and local government for significant contributions to advancing equal access to fair and consistent justice in California.
- Richard D. Huffman Justice for Children & Families Award honors individuals for significant contributions to advancing justice for children and families in California.
- The Excellence in Judicial Education Award honors individuals or faculty teams for their exceptional contributions to teaching and judicial education in California.

The invitation seeking nominations for the awards is attached.

## **Comments, Alternatives Considered, and Policy Implications**

The Distinguished Service Awards Invitation to Nominate was posted on [www.courts.ca.gov](http://www.courts.ca.gov), the judicial branch's public website. All nominations received in response to the invitation are

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<sup>1</sup> The Ronald M. George Award for Judicial Excellence, the Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award, and the Richard D. Huffman Justice for Children & Families Award, as of the date of this report, have no submitted nominations.

evaluated by the chairs of the recommending Judicial Council internal committees before making a formal recommendation to the Judicial Council.

**Attachments**

1. Attachment A: Distinguished Service Awards Invitation to Nominate



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

# *Distinguished Service Awards*

*Honoring Excellence in the Judicial Branch*

## *INVITATION TO NOMINATE*

*Dear Colleagues and Justice Partners,*

*I cordially invite your nominations for the highest awards bestowed by our state judicial branch, the Judicial Council of California Distinguished Service Awards.*

*These six awards—the Ronald M. George Award for Judicial Excellence, the William C. Vickrey Leadership in Judicial Administration Award, the Bernard E. Witkin Amicus Curiae Award, the Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award, the Richard D. Huffman Justice for Children & Families Award, and the Excellence in Judicial Education Award—honor our colleagues who make extraordinary contributions to our court system and help to personify our ideals by their dedication to the administration of justice.*

*Award categories and criteria are included in this invitation. Nomination forms and deadline information are available on the California Courts website.*

*We look forward to receiving your nomination.*

*Sincerely,*

*Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye*

TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE  
Chief Justice of California and  
Chair of the Judicial Council

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA  
*Distinguished Service Awards*



*The Judicial Council invites nominations* for six Distinguished Service Awards, presented annually by the Chief Justice to recognize individuals who exemplify the strengths of leadership that have improved the administration of justice statewide.

***RONALD M. GEORGE AWARD FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE***, honoring members of the judiciary for their extraordinary dedication to the highest principles of the administration of justice statewide

***WILLIAM C. VICKREY LEADERSHIP IN JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION AWARD***, honoring individuals in judicial administration for significant contributions to and leadership in their profession statewide

***BERNARD E. WITKIN AMICUS CURIAE AWARD***, honoring individuals other than members of the judiciary for outstanding contributions to the courts of California

***STANLEY MOSK DEFENDER OF JUSTICE AWARD***, honoring individuals from federal, state, and local government for significant contributions to advancing equal access to fair and consistent justice in California

***RICHARD D. HUFFMAN JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES AWARD***, honoring individuals for significant contributions to advancing justice for children and families in California

***EXCELLENCE IN JUDICIAL EDUCATION AWARD***, honoring individuals or faculty teams for their exceptional contributions to teaching and judicial education in California

## *AWARDS CRITERIA*

Honorees are recognized for

- Contributions to leadership in statewide court administration, including the breadth and impact of their work and the longevity of these efforts
  - ◆ Leadership and commitment in partnering with the judicial branch to achieve positive changes in statewide court administration (for the Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award only)
  - ◆ Leadership and commitment in advancing justice for children and families in California (Richard D. Huffman Justice for Children & Families Award only)
- Advancement of Judicial Council goals: access, fairness, and diversity; independence and accountability; modernization of management and administration; quality of justice and service to the public; education for branchwide professional excellence; and branchwide infrastructure for service excellence
- Personal dedication and/or a willingness to take risks to achieve goals
- Overcoming challenges or limitations

Current Judicial Council members are not eligible to receive Distinguished Service Awards, except in the case of the Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award and the Richard D. Huffman Justice for Children & Families Award. A maximum of two awards per category may be given each year.

## *NOMINATION FORMS*

June 2, 2014, is the deadline for nominations. For more information on the awards and the nomination form, visit the California Courts website at [www.courts.ca.gov/distinguishedserviceawards.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/distinguishedserviceawards.htm).

## *CONTACT*

Questions regarding the nominations and awards should be directed to Sue Oliker at the Administrative Office of the Courts, 415-865-7635, [Sue.Oliker@jud.ca.gov](mailto:Sue.Oliker@jud.ca.gov).