

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION



NYSBA

Ruth G. Schapiro Memorial Award

Call for Nominations
2009



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NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION 2009 RUTH G. SCHAPIRO MEMORIAL AWARD

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The New York State Bar Association is pleased to announce that nominations are being accepted for the 2009 Ruth G. Schapiro Memorial Award. Established in 1992 in memory of the first Chair of the Committee on Women in the Law, the award honors a female or male member of the Association who has made a noteworthy contribution to addressing the concerns of women. Current members of the Committee on Women in the Law are not eligible to receive the award.

The Hon. Judith S. Kaye, Chief Judge of the State of New York, was the first recipient. Past honorees were Fern Schair, Senior Vice-President, American Arbitration Association; Maryann Saccomando Freedman, Past President of the New York State Bar Association, currently with Cohen & Lombardo, PC; the Hon. Sondra Miller, Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department; the late Hon. M. Dolores Denman, formerly Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department; the Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin, Alston & Bird LLP; retired Bay Shore practitioner Anne Mead; Hon. Rachel Kretser, Albany City Court, Criminal Part; Former New York City practitioner, the late Joan L. Ellenbogen; Hon. Kristin Booth Glen, Surrogate's Court, New York County; posthumously to former Chief Judge Lawrence H. Cooke; M. Catherine Richardson, Past President of the New York State Bar Association and retired private practitioner; Professor Eileen R. Kaufman, Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center; Denise E. O'Donnell, Commissioner, NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services; Catherine J. Douglass, Executive Director, inMotion; Professor Rhonda Copelon, CUNY School of Law; posthumously to the late Edith I. Spivack, former Assistant Corporation Counsel of the New York City Department of Law; the Hon. Jacqueline W. Silbermann; and Karen DeCrow, Law Office of Karen DeCrow, Esq.

The award was developed and is administered by the Committee on Women in the Law. The Committee's initial report, developed in 1987 under Ruth Schapiro's guidance, has served as a springboard for subsequent Association reports and actions on issues affecting not only women in the profession, but the public at large. These issues include domestic violence, child abuse, bias, health, and gender equity. Also through her leadership, the Committee instituted educational programs and publications for the public and the profession.

The following criteria for the Ruth Schapiro Award are meant to serve as a guide in selecting a nominee. The nomination letter itself should reflect the extent to which the nominee fulfills more than one of these criteria:

The nominee has sought to create an environment that encourages leadership development, innovation and knowledge-sharing to enhance the status of women in a professional or community setting;

The nominee has given priority to women's issues, including, but not limited to: women's role as care-givers to their children, elderly parents, and spouses; breast cancer and other cancers and diseases that disproportionately impact women;

The nominee has promoted inclusive workplaces that are welcoming to the unique needs of women and is dedicated to and advocates for equal opportunity for women in the profession, business, and the community;

The nominee has provided the tools necessary to boundlessly support and encourage women to reach their career and personal goals and has been a leader in opening doors and ensuring opportunities for the advancement of women by, among others, promoting alternative work arrangements (part-time, flex-time, work from home, parental leave with an emphasis on paternity leave, etc.);

The nominee has recognized the distinctive and vital contributions women have made to an organization and society in general and has been an advocate for the rights of women, children, and family;

The nominee has participated in extensive civic activities and has sought to harness the power and resources available at the nominee's disposal toward advancing the position of women in his/her community or organization;

The nominee is committed to public service with a focus on issues that disproportionately impact women such as domestic violence, rape, sexual harassment and other gender related issues.

The Ruth G. Schapiro Memorial Award will be presented at the January 29, 2010 meeting of the Association's House of Delegates. To allow for adequate time for review, the ***nominations must be received by October 9, 2009***. Please direct this information to the Committee on Women in the Law, New York State Bar Association, One Elk Street, Albany, New York 12207, or fax to 518-463-8527. Applications may also be emailed to tmessenger@nysba.org. Additional forms may be obtained by email or by calling 518-487-5561.

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- Nomination Form -

A resumé or similar biographical material for the nominee should accompany this form. This nomination must be submitted by *October 9, 2009* to:

Committee on Women in the Law
New York State Bar Association
One Elk Street, Albany, NY 12207
Fax to: 518-463-8527, or email to: tmessenger@nysba.org

NOMINEE _____

TITLE OR POSITION _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY

NAME _____

TITLE/AFFILIATION _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL _____

