

NEWS



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**MBA TO AWARD FEDERAL JUDGE WILLIAM YOUNG AND
ABA PRESIDENT MICHAEL GRECO AT
“HONORING THE PROFESSION’S FINEST”**

BOSTON, Mass. — The Massachusetts Bar Association will recognize two of the legal profession’s most highly regarded leaders as part of its “Honoring the Profession’s Finest” event on May 9. MBA President Warren Fitzgerald will present Hon. William G. Young, U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts, with the Chief Justice Edward F. Hennessey Award and ABA President Michael S. Greco with the Gold Medal Award.

This first of a kind evening will be held at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum in Boston on May 9. The event will begin with a cocktail reception followed by dinner and an awards program. Self-guided tours of the museum’s exhibit areas will also be offered, including the recently added “A Journey Home: John F. Kennedy and Ireland” exhibit, which highlights President Kennedy’s trip to Ireland in June 1963.

“This night provides a special opportunity for us to honor two individuals who embody the very best our profession has to offer,” said Fitzgerald. “Both of these honorees lead by example and have devoted their lives to improving the American justice system.”

The Hennessey Award is presented to a federal or state court judge within Massachusetts who has upheld the highest traditions for public service, while demonstrating extraordinary leadership and dedication to improving the administration of justice and the understanding and respect of the law.

Young serves in the U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts. A graduate of Harvard University and Harvard Law School, Young was nominated to serve on the federal court in 1985 by President Ronald Reagan. Prior to his nomination, he was an associate justice on the Superior Court of Massachusetts from 1978 to 1985. Among Young's most noteworthy judgments were his 2003 sentencing of convicted "shoe bomber" Richard

Reid and his 2004 ruling rendering federal sentencing guidelines unconstitutional.

The MBA's Gold Medal Award is bestowed to an individual who has provided outstanding legal services that have benefited the legal profession in Massachusetts. Awardees have performed actions that have enhanced the image of the legal profession and the MBA, as well as demonstrated a commitment to public service and the principles embodied in the MBA.

Greco, a partner in the Boston office of Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP, became president of the American Bar Association in August 2005. A trial lawyer with more than 30 years of litigation experience, he served as president of the MBA, the New England Bar Association, the New England Bar Foundation and the Board of Trustees of Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education. As MBA president, he and the governor appointed a blue ribbon Commission on the Unmet Legal Needs of Children, whose report and recommendations led to the enactment of new statutes protecting the legal rights of children.

Event proceeds will go to the Massachusetts Bar Foundation, the philanthropic partner of the MBA.

For more information on "Honoring the Profession's Finest" or to reserve a ticket or table, call the MBA Membership Services Center at 617.338.0530 or visit www.massbar.org

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.