

MBA NEWS

20 West Street, Boston, MA 02111-1204 • communications@massbar.org

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CONTACT:

Jennifer Rosinski (617) 338-0675

Tricia M. Oliver (617) 338-0677

**MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION TO HONOR BOSTON LAW FIRM
WITH THE PRO BONO AWARD FOR LAW FIRMS
FIVE ATTORENYS AND TWO FIRMS TO BE RECOGNIZED AT ACCESS TO
JUSTICE AWARDS LUNCHEON MARCH 6**

BOSTON, Mass.—The Massachusetts Bar Association will on March 6 bestow the Pro Bono Award for Law Firms to Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP of Boston for its work providing legal representation to poor immigrants and other low-income citizens.

“At a time when private firms increasingly focus on business demands and less on community service, Nutter McClennen & Fish stands apart. It maintains a steadfast and real commitment to pro bono work and it does so courageously, taking on clients whose causes may not find universal appeal in the business world,” said Access to Justice Section Chair Ellen J. Zucker, a partner at Burns & Levinson LLP in Boston. “We are thrilled to honor them for the work they do and example they set.”

The MBA is dedicating the noon luncheon to the late Nancy King, former executive director of South Middlesex Legal Services in Framingham, who will also receive the Lifetime Achievement Award posthumously. In total, five attorneys and two firms will be honored for their extraordinary efforts in providing free legal services to the public.

The event is being held at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum in Boston and will feature a keynote address from State Rep. Byron Rushing (D-Boston).

Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP has taken on the task of providing free representation to immigrants and other people whose access to justice would otherwise be limited. The firm has worked on several litigation issues on behalf of lawful immigrants including the denial of drivers’ licenses and higher education opportunities. In addition, the firm is dedicated to representing people seeking asylum through the Political Asylum/Immigration Project.

The firm has been a founding member and participant in the Pro Bono Institute’s Law Firm Pro Bono Project, has worked with the Division of Unemployment Assistance Project, Volunteer Lawyers Project, Housing Court Lawyer for the Day/Eviction Defense Project, the Women’s Bar Foundation Family Law Project for Battered Women, the Healthy Kids Legal Network and many other pro bono programs around the commonwealth.

Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP has also worked with the Appleseed Big Brothers/Big Sisters program providing mentor support to children in the Suffolk Juvenile Court system and the Discovering Justice mock trial program.

PAGE 2—MBA to honor Worcester lawyer with Legal Services Award.

The MBA's Access to Justice to Section nominates the candidates, who are then approved by the MBA House of Delegates. The Pro Bono Award for Law Firms is given to a law firm, comprised of two or more attorneys with one or more offices in the commonwealth, whose pro bono activities are particularly noteworthy in relation to the firm's size and which has performed significant or meaningful pro bono activity or which has been particularly instrumental in developing, implementing and/or supporting a pro bono program or pro bono services within Massachusetts.

"The Access to Justice Awards Luncheon highlights the true stars of the legal profession: lawyers who tackle often challenging cases for the public good without compensation. These honorees show us what it means to be a good attorney, and we should all strive to emulate them," MBA President David W. White Jr. said.

"This year's ceremony is special because it pays tribute to legal services luminary Nancy King, who is greatly respected and admired for her role as a selfless advocate for the delivery of legal services to the poor," White added.

The full list of honorees:

- **Legal Services Award**, Faye Rachlin, Legal Assistance Corporation of Central Massachusetts., Worcester
- **Lifetime Achievement Award**, Nancy King, former executive director of South Middlesex Legal Services, Framingham
- **Pro Bono Award for Law Firms**, Heisler, Feldman, McCormick and Garrow PC, Springfield; Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP, Boston
- **Pro Bono Publico Award**, Thomas A. Manning, Worcester
- **Defender Award**, Erica E. Cushna, CPCS, Springfield
- **Prosecutor Award**, J. Thomas Kirkman, District Attorney's Office, Barnstable

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.