

MBA NEWS

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MBA Statement: Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's passing a loss for the legal community; his service will impact generations

BOSTON, Mass. — The Massachusetts Bar Association mourns the loss of its esteemed colleague, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy.

“A national champion for social and economic justice, Sen. Kennedy was a highly valued advocate for the Massachusetts legal community and the public we serve,” said MBA President Edward W. McIntyre. “His work on our behalf during decades of tireless service in the U.S. Senate will continue to have an immeasurable impact on and serve as inspiration for generations to come.”

The MBA honored Kennedy with its Legislator of the Year Award in 2007 for his outstanding contribution to the improvement of the administration of justice in the commonwealth. The senator also served as the keynote speaker at the MBA's 1998 Annual Dinner. In addition, each spring, Kennedy met with MBA leadership in Washington, D.C., to discuss issues of importance to the Massachusetts bar.

Kennedy was admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1959 and served as an assistant district attorney in Suffolk County from 1961 to 1962. Among other issues, Kennedy served as a leading advocate for legal services funding. He also lent a strong voice for the preservation of attorney-client privilege and an independent judiciary. In addition, Kennedy's influence and input resulted in countless access to justice improvements for the most vulnerable citizens.

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.