

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON ACCESS TO JUSTICE

c/o State Bar of California · 180 Howard Street · San Francisco, CA 94105 · (415) 538-2352 · (415) 538-2524/fax

Nominations Are Now Open for the Benjamin Aranda III Access to Justice Award Nomination Form Attached Nominations Close **Monday, April 4, 2016**

Dear Colleague:


The California Commission on Access to Justice is seeking nominations of California judges for the Benjamin Aranda III Access to Justice Award.

The Aranda Award honors one California trial judge, appellate court justice, or commissioner who deserves recognition for personally having done significant work towards improving access to our courts for low and moderate income Californians, and has demonstrated a long-term commitment to this effort. The award is named in honor of the late Judge Aranda who was known for his tireless efforts to promote fairness and access in the courts.

The California Commission on Access to Justice will select the award recipient in consultation with the Judicial Council, the State Bar of California and the California Judges Association. The Commission's membership includes appointees from each of those three entities, as well as from the business, labor, education and religious communities, and it is dedicated to pursuing long-term strategies designed to make significant progress toward the goal of improving access to justice for all Californians, regardless of financial resources or language ability. The award will be presented by the Chief Justice at the Distinguished Service Awards in the latter part of 2016.

Thank you for your interest, and for considering a deserving judge for this prestigious award.

Very truly yours,



Hon. Ronald Taylor, Ret., Chair
Aranda Access to Justice Award Committee
on behalf of the California Commission on Access to Justice

HON. MARK A. JUHAS
Chair
*Los Angeles County Superior Court
Los Angeles*

CATHERINE J. BLAKEMORE
Vice Chair
*Disability Rights California
Sacramento*

MARY LOU ARANGUREN
*Alameda County Superior Court
Berkeley*

MANA BARARI
*Sundeen, Salinas & Pyle
Oakland*

MARCIA R. BELL
*San Francisco Law Library
San Francisco*

CHARLES CALDERON
Whittier

PAUL S. COHEN
*Eviction Defense Collaborative
San Francisco*

HON. RICARDO CORDOVA
*Superior Court of Stanislaus County
Modesto*

MEERA E. DEO
*Thomas Jefferson School of Law
San Diego*

ERIKA C. FRANK
*California Chamber of Commerce
Sacramento*

AMOS E. HARTSTON
*California Department of Justice
Los Angeles*

HON. JAMES E. HERMAN
*Superior Court of Santa Barbara County
Santa Barbara*

JANIS R. HIROHAMA
*League of Women Voters of California
Manhattan Beach*

LISA R. JASKOL
*Public Counsel
Los Angeles*

HON. MARTIN J. JENKINS
*Court of Appeal, First Appellate District
San Francisco*

VENUS D. JOHNSON
*Office of the Calif. Attorney General
Sacramento*

HON. VICTORIA S. KOLAKOWSKI
*Alameda County Superior Court
Oakland*

MICHAEL J. LEVY
*California Department of Insurance
Sacramento*

HON. GOODWIN H. LIU
*California Supreme Court
San Francisco*

PAUL S. MARKS
*Neufeld Marks
Los Angeles*

DEBORAH D. MOSS-WEST
*Santa Clara University School of Law
Santa Clara*

ANNE MARIE MURPHY
*Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy
Burlingame*

LISA R. PRUITT
*University of California, Davis, School of Law
Davis*

HON. MARIA P. RIVERA
*Court of Appeal, First Appellate District
San Francisco*

HON. ERICA R. YEW
*Santa Clara County Superior Court
San Jose*

KELLI M. EVANS
*Senior Director Administration of Justice
State Bar of California*

BENJAMIN ARANDA III ACCESS TO JUSTICE AWARD - NOMINATION CRITERIA AND SELECTION PROCESS

The California Commission on Access to Justice is seeking nominations for the Benjamin Aranda III Access to Justice Award. Presented for the first time in 1999, this annual award honors a judge or commissioner who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to improving access to our courts, and who has personally done significant work in improving access for low and moderate income Californians.

The following are past recipients of the award:

1999 – Hon. Judith McConnell, San Diego Superior Court
2000 – Hon. Veronica S. McBeth, Los Angeles Superior Court
2001 – Hon. Charles Campbell, Ventura Superior Court
2002 – Hon. Donna J. Hitchens, San Francisco Superior Court
2003 – Hon. Kenneth M. Kawaichi, Alameda Superior Court
2004 – Hon. Earl Johnson, Jr., Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District
2005 – Hon. Aviva Bobb, Los Angeles Superior Court
2006 – Hon. Donna M. Petre, Yolo Superior Court
2007 – Hon. Kathleen E. O’Leary, Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District
2008 – Hon. Francisco Firmat, Orange County Superior Court
2009 – Hon. Gordon Baranco, Alameda County Superior Court
2010 – Hon. Laurie D. Zelon, Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District
2011 – Hon. Maria P. Rivera, Court of Appeal, First Appellate District
2012 – Hon. Juan Ulloa, Imperial County Superior Court
2013 – Justice R. Lambden, Associate Justice, California First District Court of Appeal
2014 – Hon. Sue Alexander, Commissioner, Alameda County Superior Court
2015 – Judge Garry Ichikawa, Solano County Superior Court

Criteria for Award:

Criteria to be used in the selection of the award recipient include one or more of the following:

- Demonstrated dedication to improving access to our judicial system for low and moderate income Californians;
- Demonstrated commitment to increasing the involvement of volunteer attorneys in the representation of the indigent;
- Successful establishment of a model system for providing assistance to self-represented litigants;
- Successful establishment of a model cooperative effort with local legal services programs or bar associations designed to improve available representation for low or moderate income litigants; and
- Other significant activities demonstrating a long-term commitment to improving the accessibility of our judicial system for all Californians, regardless of income.

Nominations/Selection Process:

- **Nomination forms are due Monday, April 4, 2016.** One copy of the completed Nomination Form and supporting materials should be included.
- The award recipient will be selected by the California Commission on Access to Justice, in consultation with the Judicial Council, the State Bar and the California Judges Association.

For more information, contact:

Louisa Ayrapetyan, Senior Administrative Assistant
Office of Legal Services, The State Bar of California
(415) 538-2534

louisa.ayrapetyan@calbar.ca.gov

NOMINATION FORM
BENJAMIN ARANDA III ACCESS TO JUSTICE AWARD
NOMINATIONS DEADLINE: **Monday, April 4, 2016**

Please submit one copy of the nomination form and accompanying materials either by U.S. Mail or by email as a PDF file to:

Louisa Ayrapetyan
The State Bar of California
180 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105
louisa.ayrapetyan@calbar.ca.gov

Nominee's Name:

Title/Position:

Address:

City/Zip:

Telephone Number:

Fax:

Name of Nominee's Clerk:

Phone # of Nominee's Clerk:

Please include the following supporting materials with this nomination form (Check All):

- Description of how the nominee meets the award criteria
- The nominee's resume
- Letters of support (up to five letters will be accepted)
- Three additional references

Nominator's Name:

Court/Firm/Organization:

Address:

City/Zip:

Telephone Number:

Fax:

Nominator's Signature:

E-mail Address: