

Criminal Law Section of the OBA Professional Advocate of the Year Awards

The Criminal Law Section of the OBA is seeking nominations for its prestigious "**Professional Advocate of the Year**" awards. These awards will be presented to individuals who best exemplify the criteria listed below. **Nominations may be made by any member of the bar, even if you are not a member of the Criminal Law Section of the OBA.** In that this is a professional award, Prosecutors nominate Defense Attorneys and Defense Attorneys nominate Prosecutors.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY - PROFESSIONAL ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

The recipient of this award must be an Oklahoma attorney who practices criminal defense (federal or state) in Oklahoma and is recognized as an ethical and professional advocate who defends and protects the constitutional rights of his/her individual client. The recipient should be an individual who exhibits superior advocacy skills before the court either at the trial or appellate level and consistently shows professionalism, courtesy, and respect to opposing counsel in the spirit of the adversarial system.

PROSECUTOR - PROFESSIONAL ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

The recipient of this award must be an Oklahoma attorney who represents the government in criminal prosecutions (federal or state) in Oklahoma and is recognized as an ethical and professional prosecutor who exercises prosecutorial discretion in an equitable manner towards the community as a whole. The recipient should be an individual who exhibits superior advocacy skills before the court either at the trial or appellate level and consistently shows professionalism, courtesy, and respect to opposing counsel in the spirit of the adversarial system.

PROFESSIONAL JUDICIAL AWARD: THE HONORABLE DONALD L. DEASON JUDICIAL AWARD

We also solicit nominations for **Honorable Donald L. Deason Judicial Award** to an Oklahoma or Tenth Circuit Judge who is known for character, dedication, and professional excellence.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Defense attorneys should send nominations to Mike Wilds, wilds@nsuok.edu.
- Prosecutors should send nominations to Trent Baggett, slamminsammy@cox.net.

NOMINATIONS

- Be sure to support any nomination with a short letter that includes any anecdotes or individual achievements that serve to substantiate the nomination. **Submissions must be received by July 1st, 2022.**

AWARD RECIPIENTS WILL BE RECOGNIZED AT THE ANNUAL FORENSICS ACADEMY SEMINAR SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 12TH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA (UCO) FORENSICS ACADEMY. This year's Forensics Academy theme will be "*Researching the Internet and Social Media for Trial and the Courtroom.*" As always, Professional Award Nominees attend the Forensics Academy "free" and breakfast, lunch, and swag is provided to all attendees. For more information, contact wilds@nsuok.edu.