



The 2017 Chief Judge's Pro Bono Bankruptcy Award

The Chief Judge's Pro Bono Bankruptcy Award, is an annual award created to recognize and honor one outstanding bankruptcy practitioner each year who has contributed to making access to justice a reality for those in need by going above and beyond handling pro bono bankruptcy cases for the indigent in the Southern District of Florida.

REQUIREMENTS: One Award Recipient will be selected annually. In order to be considered for this award, the candidate must have excelled in providing bankruptcy pro bono legal services in the Southern District of Florida as follows:

1. The recipient must have made significant accomplishments in improving access to justice in the insolvency and bankruptcy field.
2. The recipient must be admitted to the Southern District of Florida and be a member of The Florida Bar for a minimum of five years.
3. The recipient must have provided distinguished pro bono service, either in a single outstanding case or achievement, or must have provided distinguished pro bono services consistently over a considerable period of time for multiple activities or cases. The fact that a single achievement may have occurred before the year of recognition is not material.
4. The accomplishments must arise from voluntary activities rather than for services rendered to a client as a paid professional or for those that were not undertaken on a voluntary basis.
5. This award is limited to private attorneys and or members of law firms who are not compensated for their pro bono work and excludes members of the judiciary, legal services paid staff attorneys, and the academic community.

Nomination Guidelines:

1. Please submit a brief narrative describing how the candidate meets the criteria for the Chief Judge's Pro Bono Bankruptcy Award. The narrative should specify the pro bono work done by the candidate, including those who have benefitted from such work. Please do not include names or personal information of any clients in order to protect their confidentiality.
2. Supporting information should include the nominee's biography, including principal areas of practice, the number of years practicing law, time spent on pro bono activities, other public service contributions, educational background, bar association activities and supporting documents.
3. Please submit at least one (1) letter of support but no more than three (3) letters of support from other individuals or organizations who are aware of the candidate's pro bono contributions.
4. Self-nominations will be considered.
5. Please send nominations to Chief Judge Isicoff by mail or email laurel_m_isicoff@flsb.uscourts.gov no later than **Sept. 15, 2017. Due to Hurricane Irma deadline extended to September 25, 2017.**