COMMITTEE ON ATTORNEY PROFESSIONALISM

LILLIAN M. MOY
Chair
Legal Aid Society of Northeastern NY, Inc.
55 Colvin Avenue
Albany, NY 12206
518/689-6304
Imoy@lasnny.org

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ATTORNEY PROFESSIONALISM AWARD

Lucille A. Fontana Chair Clark, Gagliardi & Miller, P.C. The Inns of Court 99 Court Street White Plains, NY 10601 914/946-8900 Ifontana@cgmlaw.com

July 25, 2016

Queenie Paniagua, Esq. Dominican Bar Association 1565 Fulton Avenue, Apt. 2 Bronx, NY 10457

Subject: New York State Bar Attorney Professionalism Award

The Committee on Attorney Professionalism administers the annual New York State Bar Association Attorney Professionalism Award. We are now seeking nominations for the Award to be presented during the NYSBA 2017 Annual Meeting in New York. Nominations must be submitted and postmarked <u>no</u> later than October 14, 2016, on the Nomination Form, (copy enclosed, may be reproduced as needed).

Here is the Committee's working definition of attorney professionalism:

Attorney professionalism is dedication to service to clients and a commitment to promoting respect for the legal system in pursuit of justice and the public good, characterized by exemplary ethical conduct, competence, good judgment, integrity and civility.

The Award honors attorneys who evidence the highest attributes of professionalism in the practice of law: attorneys who have labored in "the vineyard" and are especially valued by their clients and their colleagues. Therefore, rather than a lifetime achievement award, this particular honor relates to professionalism in the actual practice of law. A nomination should be supported by letters from others, such as attorneys, judges or the nominee's clients or clients' families, particularly letters that are contemporaneous with the services rendered. These testimonials are important in the selection process. Your nomination should, as inclusively as possible, specify how the nominee has demonstrated the following attributes:

- a) Dedication to service to clients and always acting in the best interests of the client;
- b) Civility: behaving to all with courtesy, consideration and respect;
- c) Exemplary ethical conduct: endeavoring at all times to fulfill the spirit, and not just the requirements of the NY Rules of Professional Conduct;
- d) Competence: keeping abreast of the latest developments in his or her area of practice;
- e) Good judgment: providing client service consisting of discerning opinions and advice based upon knowledge, experience, moral as well as legal considerations;
- f) Mentoring, educating and assisting other attorneys;
- g) Integrity: always exhibiting soundness of character, fidelity, honesty and fairness.

Please keep in mind, in considering your nomination, that there are other awards honoring service to bar associations and pro bono activities. In this Attorney Professionalism Award, the New York State Bar Association seeks to honor a person who exemplifies the highest standards of professionalism in the actual practice of law. Prior award recipients include Barry Kamins of Brooklyn (2000), Lucille Fontana of White Plains (2001), Carlton Thompson of Binghamton (2002), Anne Reynolds Copps of Albany (2003), James M. Conboy of Albany (2004), George J. Nashak, Jr. of Glendale (2005), Terrence M. Connors of Buffalo (2006) Frank E. Yannelli of Garden City (2007), Peter V. Coffey of Schenectady (2008), Jill M. Cicero of Rochester (2009), Mark A. Longo (2010) of Brooklyn, James P. Bessette of Malone (2011), Christopher T. McGrath of Garden City (2012), John Ferrara of Monticello (2013), John S. Marwell of Mount Kisco (2014), Michelle L. Haskin of Albany (2015) and Norman J. Resnicow of New York City (2016).

Very truly yours,

Jallian M. Moy, Esq.

Enclosure

New York State Bar Association Committee on Attorney Professionalism Attorney Professionalism Award 2017 Nomination Form

NOMINEE:				
HOME ADDR	ESS:			
FIRM/EMPLO	YER:			
BUSINESS AL	DDRESS:			
TELEPHONE:	(home)	(office)	(fax)	
NOMINATOR	t:			
ADDRESS:				
TELEPHONE:	(home)	(office)	(fax)	
	(e-mail address)			

RELATIONSHIP TO NOMINEE (including how Nominee is known to Nominator and for how long):

REQUIRED SUBMISSION: Narrative detailing how the nominee has significantly and specifically demonstrated attributes of professionalism, as described in the attached letter.

<u>ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS:</u> Letters from clients, clients' families, judges, lawyers, including adversaries.

This form and all supporting items must be postmarked no later than Friday, October 14, 2016 and addressed to:

New York State Bar Association Attn: Richard Rifkin One Elk Street Albany, New York 12207