

ARKANSAS BAR ASSOCIATION'S ARKANSAS LEGAL HALL OF FAME

SELECTION COMMITTEE:

Seven (7) committee members will be selected as follows: One (1) person selected by each of the following, except as noted in #5.

1. Dean of the University of Arkansas School of Law;
2. Dean of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law;
3. President of the Arkansas Judicial Council;
4. President of the Arkansas Bar Foundation; and
5. President of the Arkansas Bar Association—three (3) selections to be made after selection of the other four (4) nominations in order to permit the President to balance missing diversity, including, but not limited to, diversity of: (i) age; (ii) race; (iii) gender; (iv) geographical location; and (v) type of practice. In order to better implement its stated purposes, the Arkansas Bar Association is committed to fostering diversity in its selection process.

Each committee member must be a lawyer. The committee is referred to hereafter as the Selection Committee.

The Immediate Past President of the Arkansas Bar Association shall serve as the chair of the Selection Committee (the "Chair") and the eighth member, who shall cast a vote only in the event of a tie. The President of the Arkansas Bar Association (the "President") may delegate this position to any Past President of the Arkansas Bar Association if the Immediate Past President is unwilling or unable to serve; the President may delegate this position to any member of the Arkansas Bar Association if no Past President is willing or able to serve. If any nominator shall fail to select a Selection Committee member within sixty (60) days of a request to appoint, the President may fill such position. The President may replace any Selection Committee member who fails to actively participate.

The Selection Committee members, other than the Chair, will serve three (3) year terms. For the first Selection Committee, two (2) members will serve a one (1) year term and two (2) will serve a two (2) year term to create staggered terms. The first Selection Committee will use a lottery method to decide which members serve less than a full three (3) year term. No person will serve more than two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms on the Selection Committee.

The inaugural Hall of Fame class will be selected by the Arkansas Bar Association Legal Hall of Fame Task Force (the "Task Force"). The Selection Committee procedure outlined above will begin in the second year.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

For an individual to be eligible for inclusion in the Hall of Fame, the nominee must:

1. Meet one of these two criteria:
 - a. Be a living person at least fifty (50) years old; or
 - b. Be deceased for at least three (3) years.This requirement may be waived by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Selection Committee. For the inaugural class, this requirement may be waived by two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Task Force.
2. Have an articulable connection to the State of Arkansas, including but not limited to: (i) born in Arkansas; (ii) reared in Arkansas; (iii) educated in Arkansas; or (iv) practiced law in Arkansas.
3. Have made an extraordinary contribution to the law, society, the administration of justice or legal education.¹

¹ The intent of the Hall of Fame is to recognize lifetime achievements and is not meant to supplant any other awards.

The Selection Committee may consider relevant diversity factors when selecting between nominees of similar stature and accomplishment, including, but not limited to, diversity of race, gender, geographical location, and type of practice or service. The Selection Committee may give preference to members of the Arkansas Bar Association when selecting between nominees of similar stature and accomplishment.

The Selection Committee may select up to five (5) living honorees, two (2) deceased honorees and one (1) group, organization or event. No person may be selected for the Hall of Fame more than once, though a person who is also a member of a group, organization or event may be separately honored.

SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR GROUPS, ORGANIZATIONS OR EVENTS:

The Selection Committee may, but is not required to, honor up to one (1) group, organization or event. Any group, organization or event must have existed for at least twenty-five (25) years or occurred at least twenty-five (25) years ago.² The group, organization or event must have made an extraordinary contribution to the law, the administration of justice or legal education.³

A group, organization or event must have a close and clearly articulable connection to Arkansas. National groups, organizations or events where Arkansas is just one of many affected areas are not eligible for consideration.⁴

No group, organization or event may be honored more than once, except that members of the same group, organization or event might be recognized separately.

NOMINATION PROCESS:

Any person may submit a nomination. The nomination should include:

1. The name of the nominee;
2. The birthdate and birthplace of the nominee or the qualifying date of the group, organization or event;
3. The date of death and residence at the time of death (if applicable);
4. A general statement of why the nominee should be in the Hall of fame (not to exceed 750 words);
5. A resume or vita of the nominee (if available); and
6. Up to two (2) letters of recommendation.

Nominations not selected in any given year may be held over for consideration in future years.

INELIGIBILITY:

No person may be selected for inclusion in the Legal Hall of Fame while currently holding the following positions:

1. An Arkansas Bar Association officer;
2. An Arkansas Bar Foundation officer;
3. Any member of the Arkansas Bar Association Board of Trustees;

² Examples may include: (i) the Six Pioneers at the University of Arkansas; (ii) Arkansas High School Mock Trial Competitions; or (iii) the Annual Bar Meetings in Hot Springs.

³ The University of Arkansas School of Law and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law shall be considered one group, though they will be separately honored at the same event if selected.

⁴ For example, the American Bar Association would not be an eligible organization and the signing of the United States Constitution would not be an eligible event.

4. Any member of the Task Force or any future committee or task force appointed by the Arkansas Bar Association Board of Trustees to oversee the Legal Hall of Fame or Selection Committee; and
5. Any Selection Committee member.

For purposes of clarification, a person who subsequently assumes one of these positions after being selected by the Selection Committee, but prior to being formally inducted into the Legal Hall of Fame, may be inducted. The ineligibility set forth in this section only applies to persons holding the identified positions at the time the Selection Committee makes its decision regarding whom to include.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR INAUGURAL CLASS:

In addition to up to five (5) living persons, the inaugural class may include up to fifteen (15) deceased persons.

PLANS FOR HONORING:

Honorees will be presented at a recognition event to be hosted by the Arkansas Bar Association. Each honoree's picture and biography will be displayed on the Arkansas Bar Association's website.⁵ Biography formats will be standardized to the extent possible.⁶

The Arkansas Bar Association will present and manage the Hall of Fame, which may be done through a related entity. The Arkansas Bar Association may solicit sponsors for the Hall of Fame as approved by a sponsorship committee.

ADMINISTRATION AND AMENDMENTS

The Arkansas Bar Association Board of Trustees, or a committee or task force appointed by such board, shall oversee the administration of the Hall of Fame, including the operation of the Selection Committee and the events honoring the members of the Hall of Fame. The Board of Trustees may make amendments to this document. Except as expressly set forth in this document, the Selection Committee may not make exceptions or modifications to the structure of the Hall of Fame without the consent of the Board of Trustees, as may be recommended by a designated committee or task force.

⁵ At an appropriate time, recognition may also include monitors at various locations such as the Arkansas Bar Association headquarters, the law schools and other locations.

⁶ The format used by the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History may be appropriate.