

NEWS RELEASE

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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Judge Winthrop Honored with Outstanding Jurist Award

PHOENIX – The State Bar of Arizona Board of Governors honored Court of Appeals Judge Lawrence Winthrop with the 2015 James A. Walsh Outstanding Jurist Award. The award was presented at the State Bar of Arizona Convention luncheon on Friday, June 26.

According to the State Bar’s materials, the James A. Walsh Outstanding Jurist Award is *“presented to a judge whose career exemplifies the highest standards of judicial conduct for integrity and independence; who is knowledgeable of the law and faithful to it; who is unswayed by partisan interests, public clamor or fear of criticism; who is patient, dignified and courteous to all who appear before him or her; and who endeavors to improve the administration of justice and public understanding of, and respect for, the role of law in our society.”*

“I’m very appreciative of this recognition, but would point out that most of my judicial work is accomplished by collaborating with other judges and members of the judicial branch, and they deserve the credit and recognition that comes with this award,” Judge Winthrop said. “This is particularly so as it relates to our collective efforts to advance access to justice in Arizona. Every judge in this state works very hard to ensure that each litigant has a meaningful opportunity to be heard, and we endeavor to see that, to the extent possible, disputes are resolved on the merits.”

“The State Bar of Arizona has been an important partner in these efforts, and the Board of Governors' recognition and approval of these collaborative efforts is much appreciated,” he added.

Judge Winthrop was appointed to the Court of Appeals in 2002 and served as its Chief Judge from 2011-2013. The judge has served as a member of the Arizona Judicial Council and Commission on Technology. He currently chairs the Arizona Commission on Access to Justice, the Arizona Supreme Court's Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee, and the Attorney Regulation Advisory Committee. In 2012, the Arizona Supreme Court honored Judge Winthrop with the 2012 Judge of the Year Award for his efforts to promote access to justice statewide and for his dedication to promoting civics education for youth and adults.

Born in Los Angeles, California, Judge Winthrop attended law school at California Western School of Law, where he graduated magna cum laude and served as the California Western Law Review, Editor-in-Chief.

The James A. Walsh Outstanding Jurist Award is named in honor of James Augustine Walsh (1906-1991), who was nominated by President Harry S. Truman to a seat on the United States District Court for the District of Arizona. Walsh served as chief judge of that court from 1961 to 1972. After many years of service, Walsh assumed senior status and continued in semi-retirement until his death in 1991.

Recent recipients of the James A. Walsh Outstanding Jurist Award include:

- Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Ruth V. McGregor (2009),
- The Honorable Barbara Rodriguez Mundell (2010),
- The Honorable John M. Roll (posthumously in 2011),
- The Honorable James M. Marlar (2012),
- The Honorable Robert L. Gottsfield (2013), and
- The Honorable Rebecca White Berch (2014).

Additional awards and winners can be viewed at

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