



The Florida Bar
Board of Legal Specialization and Education

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Justice Harry Lee Anstead Award Florida Bar Board Certified Lawyer of the Year

*“Certification should be the capstone for a lawyer’s professionalism goals. ...A lawyer who specializes should aspire to become certified as a visible way to demonstrate that lawyer’s commitment to **professionalism and excellence**. Board certification is reliable proof of the **character and commitment** that sets a lawyer apart. Your oath as an attorney and your commitment to your clients and your profession require that you be **the best lawyer you can be** and that you assist others to do so. ...Judges, lawyers, leaders of the Bar, mentors, and law firms must be committed to the standards and ideals of professionalism, excellence, and service that we cherish for our profession and our justice system. Let us keep the jewels of certification and professionalism brightly polished so they shine for all to see.”*

- Former Justice Harry Lee Anstead, Florida Supreme Court

The Justice Harry Lee Anstead Award is presented annually to a Florida Board Certified lawyer or judge. The 2020 award will be presented by Chief Justice Charles T. Canady during the Board of Legal Specialization & Education Reception at The Florida Bar Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida. The Anstead award recognizes exemplary professionalism, excellence, character and commitment to The Florida Bar’s certification program and to the practice of law.

The criteria for the award are as follows:

- Board certified lawyer or judge.
- Substantial and positive influence on professionalism locally, statewide or nationally either through exemplary professional behavior during a career at law serving as a role model for others, or notable projects or activities advancing professionalism (e.g., extraordinary mentoring, extensive service on Bar professionalism committees, leadership within the Bar, etc.). Age or number of years as an attorney shall not necessarily qualify or disqualify a nominee.
- Positive influence on or advancement of Florida Bar board certification through mentoring of attorneys or law school students, faculty service for certification review courses or certification-related CLE courses, or service on a Florida Bar certification committee or the Board of Legal Specialization and Education.
- Florida Bar member in good standing with no record of Florida Bar disciplinary action.
- Solid reputation for professionalism and character.
- A history of teaching, mentoring, or providing an outstanding example for younger lawyers.
- The Harry Lee Anstead award may be given posthumously to an attorney who would have otherwise met the requirements.

Note: The Florida Bar Creed of Professionalism is attached.

Florida Bar Creed of Professionalism

I revere the law, the judicial system, and the legal profession and will at all times in my professional and private lives uphold the dignity and esteem of each.

I will further my profession's devotion to public service and to the public good.

I will strictly adhere to the spirit as well as the letter of my profession's code of ethics, to the extent that the law permits and will at all times be guided by a fundamental sense of honor, integrity, and fair play.

I will not knowingly misstate, distort, or improperly exaggerate any fact or opinion and will not improperly permit my silence or inaction to mislead anyone.

I will conduct myself to assure the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of every action and resolution of every controversy.

I will abstain from all rude, disruptive, disrespectful, and abusive behavior and will at all times act with dignity, decency, and courtesy.

I will respect the time and commitments of others.

I will be diligent and punctual in communicating with others and in fulfilling commitments.

I will exercise independent judgment and will not be governed by a client's ill will or deceit.

My word is my bond.



Justice Harry Lee Anstead Award Florida Bar Board Certified Lawyer of the Year

Nomination deadline is Friday, July 31st, 2020.

Nominations may be submitted anonymously.

Please submit nomination forms and supporting materials to:

Blaire E. Bisbee
The Florida Bar

Legal Specialization and Education Department
651 E. Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2300

Fax: 850/561-5805, cover sheet clearly labeled "Anstead Award" Nomination" or e-mail BBisbee@floridabar.org

Name of Nominee: _____ Bar # _____

Nominee's Business Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email: _____

Nominee's Qualifications: (attach additional sheets if necessary)

1. How has the nominee exemplified The Florida Bar Creed of Professionalism or otherwise promoted the ideals and values of professionalism?

2. Describe the nominee's participation in notable projects or activities advancing professionalism and/or certification (e.g., professionalism project(s), extraordinary mentoring, extensive service on Bar professionalism or certification committees, leadership within the Bar, etc.):

3. Other examples that demonstrate the lawyer's exemplary professionalism, excellence, character and commitment to The Florida Bar's certification program and to the practice of law:

Names/contact information of others familiar with reasons for nomination (optional):
