



**Women in
Law Section**

Kay Crawford Murray Memorial Award

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 2025

The New York State Bar Association is pleased to announce that nominations are being accepted for the 2025 Kay Crawford Murray Memorial Award. In 2008, the Committee on Women in the Law (now the Women in Law Section) created the Kay Crawford Murray Memorial Award in honor of the professional and personal commitment Ms. Murray made to supporting and advancing the legal careers of women, particularly African-American women attorneys. The award honors a member of the bar who recognizes the value of diversity in the legal profession and who has dedicated their time to advancing the professional development of women attorneys. Current members of the Executive Committee of the Women in Law Section are not eligible to receive the award.

Kay Crawford Murray received the New York State Bar Association's inaugural Kay Crawford Murray Award during the NYSBA annual meeting in 2008. The award, which is presented by the NYSBA Women in Law Section, celebrates an individual who, in the spirit of Ms. Murray, recognizes the value of diversity in the legal profession and is committed to advancing the professional development of women attorneys. During the time Ms. Murray chaired the committee, she raised awareness of women's issues, spearheading a report that urged the Association to propose a model policy for childbirth and parenting as a guideline for law firms.

"Kay Murray was a tireless advocate for promoting diversity and inclusion and a dedicated mentor to women attorneys. Her efforts to promote diversity are an inspiration to us all," said Frettra de Silva, Chair of the NYSBA's Women in Law Section. "Through the Kay Crawford Murray Memorial Award, we seek to recognize dynamic and inspirational attorneys who are meaningfully advancing diversity and enhancing the professional development of women in the legal profession."

When submitting nominations for this award and in the spirit of the diversity efforts of Kay Crawford Murray, everyone is encouraged to keep in mind the 2003 diversity policy of the Association, which was amended in 2020, to read: "Diversity is an inclusive concept, encompassing gender, race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age and disability."

Recent recipients include: Josie Sheppard Wilson in 2024, Jamie A. Levitt in 2023, Katherin M. Crossling in 2022, Hon. Lisa A. Sokoloff in 2021, Tiffany H. Lee in 2020, Sandra Dawn Grannum in 2019, Hon. Lisa Margaret Smith in 2018, Catherine A. Christian in 2017, Dolores Gebhardt in 2016, Karen E. Simmons in 2015, Connie O. Walker in 2014, Hon. Sondra Miller in 2013, Pamela Jones Harbour in 2012, Nancy D. Peck in 2011, and Hon. Jenny Rivera in 2010.

The Kay Crawford Murray Memorial Award will be presented during the meeting of the Women in Law Section on January 16, 2025. It is mandatory that the award recipient be available for a presentation on January 16, 2025.

To allow for adequate time for review, nominations must be received by November 1, 2024 by 2:00 p.m. Please direct this information to the Women in Law Section, New York State Bar Association, One Elk Street, Albany, New York 12207. Applications may also be emailed to eguerrero@nysba.org. Additional forms may be obtained by email or by calling 518-487-5535.

If you would like your nominee to also be considered for the Section's Ruth G. Schapiro Memorial Award, you must submit a separate nomination form for that award. Nomination forms are available on the Section's website.





2025 Kay Crawford Murray Memorial Award



Deadline

November 1, 2024

The Kay Crawford Murray Memorial award was developed and is administered by the Women in Law Section. Future recipients will possess the following characteristics:

- (1) a distinguished legal career or a rising star in the profession;
- (2) an active member of one or more bar associations for the purpose of advancing the professional and personal development of women attorneys;
- (3) an active mentor to women attorneys; and
- (4) a substantial contributor to increasing the value of diversity in the legal profession.

Nomination Form

Nominee: _____

Title/Position: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Nominator: _____

Title/Affiliation: _____

Business Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Please provide as much detail as possible regarding the nominee's qualifications for this award, such as writings, service to bar associations or community organizations, legal representation, development of legislation, teachings, pro bono service, or other initiatives. Please include a resumé or other biographical data. Supplemental information, including news articles, brief writings by the nominee, and letters of support would be helpful in the review of the candidate. Please limit all nomination materials to 25 pages.

This nomination must be submitted by November 1, 2024 by 2:00 p.m.

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One Elk Street, Albany, New York 12207
email to: eguerrero@nysba.org