



**Criminal Justice
Section**

New York State Bar Association

2025 Awards

NOMINATION FORM

[NYSBA.ORG/CRIMAWARDS](https://nysba.org/crimawards)



Deadline

Monday, November 17, 2025

2025 Criminal Justice Section Awards

For more than 30 years, the NYSBA Criminal Justice Section has presented awards for outstanding service in the criminal justice system. The awards have expanded to include 13 different award categories representing the many different aspects of the criminal justice system. Awards are presented at the Section's luncheon during the NYSBA's Annual Meeting in New York City in January.

Persons who are ineligible for an award:

Previous award winners in a category will not be approved again for that category. A person may be nominated and approved for an award in a different category after 3 years. An alphabetical list of all previous CJS award winners is available at www.nysba.org/crimawards.

Members of the Awards Committee or Officers of the Criminal Justice Section are ineligible for awards while serving on the Committee or as an Officer.

Partners, associates, and relatives of a current Committee member or Officer of the section are ineligible.

Submissions:

Please submit the completed nomination form along with any supporting documentation to:

Tara Lana, Liaison, Program and Event Manager
New York State Bar Association
One Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207
tlana@nysba.org

or, you may complete a ballot online at: nysba.org/crimawards

You may nominate in one or more categories by submitting an additional ballot/s; however, you are urged to supply supporting documentation and comment for each nominee of at least 25-50 words describing the nominee's significant achievements.

You must disclose how you know the nominee. For example, you work on a committee with the person; s/he was your adversary or represented a co-defendant in a trial; s/he is your employee/er; relative or friend; you read about the person in the media.

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Awards Committee:

Robert Masters, Chair
Jack Ryan
Tim Koller
Dan Arshak
Rick Collins
Kevin Kelly
Catherine Christian
Leah Nowotarski

Criminal Justice Section Officers:

David M. Cohn, Chair
Nigel Farinha, Vice-Chair
Natasha Pooran, Secretary
Courtney McGowan, Treasurer

Nomination Ballot

Please request another ballot or copy this form to submit additional nominations.

Ballots also available at : www.nysba.org/crimawards

You are welcome to submit for each category

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Nominees Name: _____

Nominee's Title or Function: _____

Comments:

We encourage you to attach any additional supporting information.

Award Nominee Categories (Please Check One. You may and are encouraged to submit additional ballots in additional categories.)

- ☐ Charles F. Crimi Memorial Award
- ☐ David S. Michaels Memorial Award
- ☐ Outstanding Appellate Practitioner
- ☐ Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Correctional Services
- ☐ Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Criminal Justice Legislation
- ☐ Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Criminal Law Education
- ☐ Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Public Information
- ☐ Outstanding Contribution to the Bar and the Community
- ☐ Outstanding Police Contribution in the Criminal Justice System
- ☐ Outstanding Prosecutor
- ☐ The Michele S. Maxian Award for Outstanding Public Defense
- ☐ The Vincent E. Doyle, Jr. Award for Outstanding Judicial Contribution in the Criminal Justice System
- ☐ New! Martin B. Adelman Memorial Award

Nominator's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail** _____

Describe how you know the nominee. For example, you work on a committee with the person; s/he was your adversary or represented a co-defendant in a trial; s/he is your employee/er; relative or friend; you read about the person in the media.

Please submit the completed nomination form/s along with any supporting documentation to tlana@nysba.org.

If you have any questions you may contact Tara Lana, tlana@nysba.org, (518) 487-5596.

Thank you for your continued support of the NYSBA Criminal Justice Section.

Award Descriptions and Previous Honorees

Charles F. Crimi Memorial Award:

To recognize the professional career of a defense lawyer in private practice that embodies the highest ideals of the Criminal Justice Section.

Previous Honorees: 1985 – Gerald B. Lefcourt | 1986 – Jack T. Litman | 1987 – Harold J. Boreanaz | 1988 – Barry Ivan Slotnick | 1989 – Arthur Litman | 1990 – Charles F. Crimi | 1991 – James M. LaRossa | 1992 – Frederick P. Hafetz | 1993 – Gerald B. Lefcourt | 1994 – Robert Murphy | 1995 – Barry Scheck and Peter J. Neufeld | 1996 – Lawrence S. Goldman | 1997 – Mark J. Mahoney | 1998 – Gustave H. Newman | 1999 – Herald Price Fahringer | 2000 – Raymond A. Kelly, Jr. | 2001 – Herbert L. Greenman | 2002 – Kathryn M. Kase | 2003 – Paul J. Cambria, Jr. | 2004 – Ira D. London | 2005 – Benjamin Brafman | 2006 – Donald M. Thompson | 2007 – Gerald L. Shargel | 2008 – Stephen P. Scaring | 2009 – Joel L. Daniels | 2010 – Theodore V. Wells, Jr. | 2011 – James P. Harrington | 2012 – Anthony L. Ricco | 2013 – Thomas J. Cocuzzi | 2014 – Paul Shechtman | 2015 – Terrence M. Connors | 2016 – Benjamin Ostrer | 2017 – Cheryl Meyers Buth | 2018 – Elkan Abramowitz | 2019 – Joseph M. LaTona | 2020 – Bruce A. Barket | 2023 – Murray Richman | 2024 – Rodney O. Personius

David S. Michaels Memorial Award:

To recognize courageous efforts in promoting integrity, justice, and fairness in the criminal justice system.

Previous Honorees: 1988 – Mario Merola | 1989 – Robert G. Sullivan | 1990 – Cahill Gordon & Reindel | 1991 – The Fortune Society | 1992 – Hon. Gustin L. Reichbach | 1993 – Hon. Stuart Namm | 1994 – Hon. Milton Molten | 1995 – Joseph P. Armao | 1996 – William M. Kunstler | 1997 – Robert T. Johnson | 2000 – Zachary W. Carter | 2001 – Hon. Loretta E. Lynch | 2002 – Myron Beldock | 2003 – Nancy E. Ryan | 2004 – Terence L. Kindlon | 2005 – Robert Craig Fogelnest | 2006 – Gary A. Horton | 2007 – Norman L. Reimer | 2008 – James B. Comey | 2009 – Eleanor Jackson Piel | 2010 – Erin P. Gall | 2012 – G. Hanna Antonsson | Michael K. Bachrach | Karloff C. Commissioning | Peter Enrique Quijano | Anna Sideris | and Steve Zissou | 2016 – Judy Clarke | 2017 – Kenneth P. Thompson (posthumously) | 2018 – Glenn A. Garber | 2019 – CAPT Art C. Cody, USN (RET) | LT Alaric A. Piette JAGC, USN | 2025 – Judge Andrew LoTempio

Outstanding Appellate Practitioner:

Established in 2003, to recognize outstanding advocacy, protection of due process and the public welfare, and the integrity of the judicial system by defense attorneys and prosecutors.

Previous Honorees: 2003 – Lynn W. Fahey | 2007 – Mark Dwyer | 2009 – Steven R. Kartagener | 2010 – Barbara D. Underwood | 2013 – Robert S. Dean | 2015 – Janet C. Somes | 2016 – Barbara J. Davies | 2017 – Malvina Nathanson

Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Correctional Services:

To acknowledge outstanding contributions in the field of correctional services.

Previous Honorees: 1985 – W. Douglas Call | 1986 – Marion Goldberg | 1987 – Walter P. Kelly | 1988 – J. Patrick Gallagher | 1989 – Raul Russi | 1990 – Kenneth W. Dunham | 1991 – William G. McMahon | 1992 – Dennis J. Wittman | 1993 – Edmund B. Wutzer | 1994 – Hon. Catherine Abate | 1995 – Hon. Morris E. Lasker | 1996 – Norman P. Effman | 1997 – Philip Coombe, Jr. | 1998 – Michael Jacobson | 1999 – Prisoners Legal Services | 2001 – Anthony Annucci | 2003 – George Alexander | 2005 – Lieutenant Thomas Dixon |

2011 – Commissioner Brian Fischer | 2012 – Richard de Simone | 2014 – Jason D. Effman | 2015 – Sister Teresa Fitzgerald | 2017 – Karen L. Murtagh | 2023 – Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.

Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Criminal Justice Legislation:

To recognize outstanding work in proposing or implementing needed reforms, which specifically includes political action and fundamental research into the operation and effectiveness of the entire criminal justice system.

Previous Honorees: 1985 – Angelo James Mangia | 1986 – Hon. James A. Yates | 1987 – Lawrence T. Kurlander | 1988 – Robert M. Pitler | 1989 – James B. Cantwell | 1990 – John J. Poklemba | 1991 – Sheldon Silver | 1992 – Frederick J. Jacobs | 1993 – Donald M. Halperin | 1994 – Saul Weprin | 1995 – Joseph R. Lentol | 1996 – Hon. Christopher J. Mega | 1997 – Paul Shechtman | 1998 – Senator Dale Volker | 1999 – Hon. Charles E. Schumer | 2003 – John R. Dunne | 2005 – Hon. Jeffrion L. Aubry | 2014 – Hon. Lee Zeldin | 2018 – Michael C. Green | 2020 – Ronald F. Kennedy | 2022 – Martin Rosenbaum

Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Criminal Law Education:

To recognize outstanding work in criminal law education, the promotion of interest in the practice of criminal law, and the provision to students the opportunity to gain practical insight into the operation of the criminal justice system.

Previous Honorees: 1991 – Bennett L. Gershman | 1992 – Charles J. Ogletree | 1993 – Abraham M. Abramovsky | 1994 – Frank Polestino | 1995 – Eric Warner | 1996 – William Hellerstein | 1997 – Ursula Bentele | 1998 – Professor Robert Pitler | 1999 – Professor Barry Kamins | 2000 – Professor Ellen Yaroshefsky | 2001 – Professor Charles Patrick Ewing | 2003 – Professor Bruce A. Green | 2006 – Monroe H. Freedman | 2011 – Joanne Macri | 2012 – Professor Richard T. Farrell | 2014 – Anthony J. Colleluori | 2016 – Peter Gerstenzang | 2017 – Gary Muldoon | 2018 – Hon. William C. Donnino | 2019 – Hon. Martin Marcus | 2025 – Sherry Levin Wallach & Tucker C. Stancliff

Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Public Information:

In recognition of a significant effort to acquaint the public and the bar with the operation of the criminal justice system; to alert the public to the problems besetting that system; and to foster dedication to the preservation of liberty through law.

Previous Honorees: 1985 – Nicholas Pileggi | 1986 – Matt Gryta | 1987 – Murray Kempton | 1988 – Arnold H. Lubasch | 1989 – Michael Taibbi | 1990 – John T. Speight | 1991 – “60 Minutes” | 1992 – Steven D. Brill | 1993 – Anthony DeStefano | 1994 – David Kocieniewski | 1995 – Fred Graham | 1996 – Michael Beebe and Daniel Herbeck | 1997 – Lynda Richardson | 1998 – “Law & Order” | 1999 – Bob Herbert | 2001 – Jeffrey Toobin | 2003 – Daniel Wise | 2006 – Jerry Capeci | 2009 – William Glaberson | 2010 – John M. Caher | 2017 – Dr. Heather Ann Thompson | 2025 – Errol Louis

Outstanding Contribution to the Bar and the Community:

Special recognition for service to the bar and the community.

Previous Honorees: 1994 – Harold Boreanaz | 1995 – Robert B. Fiske, Jr. | 1996 – Martin B. Adelman | 1997 – Haywood Burns | 1999 – John W. Condon, Jr. | 2000 – Martin H. Brownstein | 2001 – Susan B. Lindenauer | 2002 – Peter Gerstenzang | 2003 – Hon. Jack B. Weinstein | 2004 – Malvina Nathanson | 2006 – Cynthia Feathers | 2007 – Vanessa C. Potkin and Hon. Elisa S. Koenderman | 2009 – Klaus Eppler | 2011 – Hon. Phylis S. Bamberger | 2015 – Hon. Robert T. Russell Jr. | 2018 – Hon. Craig D. Hannah | 2019 – Elizabeth Glazer | 2020 – Jonathan E. Gradess (presented posthumously) | 2024 – Daniel G. Looney

Outstanding Police Contribution in the Criminal Justice System:

To recognize outstanding efforts to improve the police function within the criminal justice system.

Previous Honorees: 1985 – Richard J. Condon | 1987 – John Guido | 1988 – Jeffrey Chamberlain | 1989 – Francis L. Giles | 1990 – Bias Incident Investigating Unit (NYCPD) | 1991 – Thomas F. Higgins | 1992 – Lt. John F. Driscoll | 1993 – Richard S. Inscore | 1994 – Nelson E. Roth | 1995 – Rocco J. Diina | 1996 – Andrew P. Meloni | 1997 – James W. McMahon | 1998 – Patrick E. Kelleher | 1999 – Crystalea Burns Pelletier | 2002 – Bernard Kerik | 2005 – Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly | 2006 – James H. Lawrence | 2007 – Wayne E. Bennett | 2008 – Dennis Delano and the Bike Path Rapist Investigation Team | 2008 Detective Robert Addolorato, Steven M. Cohen, Detective John Schwartz | 2012 – Phil T. Pulaski | 2014 – Philip Banks, III | 2015 – Chief Margaret Ryan | 2016 – Commissioner William J. Bratton

Outstanding Prosecutor:

To recognize a prosecutor who has made special contributions to not only the prosecution community, but to the bar at large, and whose professional conduct evidences a true understanding of a public prosecutor's duty to advance the fair and ethical administration of criminal justice.

Previous Honorees: 1985 – Kenneth Gribetz, Esq. | 1986 Hon. Raymond J. Dearie | 1987 Edward J. Kuriansky | 1988 – Charles J. Hynes | 1989 – Andrew J. Maloney | 1990 – Richard C. Laskey | 1991 – Malcolm C. Hughes | 1992 – Daniel S. Dwyer | 1993 – Carl A. Vergari | 1994 – Jack Ryan | 1995 – William L. Murphy | 1996 – Hon. Dennis C. Vacco | 1997 – Kevin M. Dillon | 1998 – Hon. Robert M. Morgenthau | 1999 – Anthony Girese | 2000 – Hon. Richard Brown | 2001 – Sean M. Byrne | 2002 – Mary Jo White | 2003 – Hon. Robert Carney | 2004 – Howard R. Relin | 2005 – William J. Fitzpatrick | 2006 – George M. Dentes | 2007 – Hon. Frank J. Clark | 2008 – Patrick J. McCormack | 2009 – Robert L. Dreher | 2010 – Stephen F. Lungen | 2011 – Sean E. Smith | 2012 – Daniel T. McCarthy | 2013 – Kristine Hamann | 2014 – Frank A. Sedita, III | 2015 – Gerald F. Mollen | 2016 – Kathleen B. Hogan | 2017 – Preet Bharara | 2018 – Thomas P. Zugibe | 2019 – P. David Soares | 2020 – Bridget G. Brennan | 2023 Richard P. Donoghue | 2024 – Weeden A. Wetmore | 2025 – DA Eric Gonzalez

The Michele S. Maxian Award for Outstanding Public Defense Practitioner:

Recognizes an outstanding public defense practitioner.

Previous Honorees: 1984 Norman P. Effman, Esq. | 1985 Wilfred R. O'Connor, Esq. | 1986 Archibald R. Murray, Esq. | 1988 – Lenore Gittis | 1989 – Edward J. Nowak | 1990 – Ronald J. Tabak | 1991 – NYS Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers | 1992 – Jonathan E. Gradess | 1993 – First Time/Last Time Youth Program | 1994 – Robert Baum | 1995 – E. Joshua Rosenkranz and William L. Murphy | 1996 – Matthew Muraskin | 1997 – Robert D. Lonski | 1998 – David Steinberg | 1999 – Stephen J. Pittari | 2001 – Robin Steinberg | 2002 – Manuel D. Vargas | 2003 – Thomas J. Concannon | 2004 – Michelle Maxian | 2005 – Capital Defender Office | 2006 – Federal Public Defenders Office/Western District | 2007 – Seymour W. James, Jr. | 2008 – Lisa Schreibersdorf | 2009 – Roland Thau | 2010 – Claudia S. Schultz | 2011 – Elsie Chandler | 2012 – Joseph J. Terranova | 2013 – Daniel E. Barry, Jr. | 2014 – Jessica W. Goldthwaite | 2015 – Andrew Kossover | 2016 – Cynthia Conti-Cook | 2017 – Rick Jones | 2018 – Justine M. Luongo | 2019 – William J. Leahy | 2020 – Justine Olderman | 2022 – Sheila E. Shea | 2024 – Leanne Lapp | 2025 – Sergio De La Pava

The Vincent E. Doyle, Jr. Award for Outstanding Judicial Contribution in the Criminal Justice System:

To honor outstanding judicial effort to improve the administration of the criminal justice system.

Previous Honorees: 1985 – Hon. John M. Finnerty | 1986 – Milton Mollen | 1987 – Robert GM Keating | 1988 – Hon. Richard A. Brown | 1989 – Hon. Ernst H. Rosenberger | 1990 – Hon. Stewart F. Hancock, Jr. | 1991 – Hon. Samuel L. Green | 1992 – Hon. Michael F. Dillon | 1993 – Hon. Peter J. McQuillan | 1994 – Hon. Theodore Kasler | 1995 – Hon. Albert M. Rosenblatt | 1996 – Hon. Edward R. Korman | 1997 – Hon. Jacob Mishler | 1998 – Hon. David Boehm and Hon. Burton B. Roberts | 1999 – Hon. Vito J. Titone | 2000 – Hon. M. Dolores Denman and Hon. Joseph Bellacosa | 2001 – Hon. William D. Friedmann | 2002 – Hon. Vincent E. Doyle, Jr. | 2003 – Hon. Robert T. Russell, Jr. | 2004 – Hon. Richard Wesley | 2005 – Hon. Steven W. Fisher | 2006 – Hon. Thomas J. McAvoy | 2007 – Hon. William C. Donnino | 2008 – Hon. Judith S. Kaye | 2009 – Hon. Jonathan Lippman | 2010 – Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick | 2011 – Hon. Jed S. Rakoff | 2012 – Hon. A. Gail Prudenti | 2013 – Hon. Theodore T. Jones | 2014 – Hon. Barry Kamins | 2015 – Hon. Robert S. Smith and Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo | 2016 – Hon. Eugene F. Pigott, Jr. | 2017 – Hon. John M. Leventhal | 2018 – Hon. Jenny Rivera | 2019 – Hon. Lawrence K. Marks | 2020 – Hon. Michael M. Mohun | 2022 – Hon. Shirley Troutman | 2024 – Judge Matthew J. D'Emic

The Martin Adelman Lifetime Achievement Award:

To honor a lawyer or judge whose remarkable career has contributed to the betterment of the legal profession.

Previous Honorees: 2021 – Louis A. Molina | 2023 – Jack Hoffinger | 2024 – Michael F. Berger | 2025 – Judge Jenny Rivera



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