

2027 Jonathan Lippman Pro Bono Award

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

You are invited to submit a nomination for the 2027 Jonathan Lippman Pro Bono Award sponsored by the New York State Bar Association 50+ Section. This award has been created to recognize dedicated senior members of our profession who have generously provided pro bono service in New York and to inspire other senior attorneys to use their legal knowledge and experience to provide assistance to underserved members of the community. By naming this award in honor of former Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman, the 50+ Section also seeks to honor an inspiring judicial leader who has zealously championed the cause of access to justice and has encouraged and supported the unique contributions of senior attorneys to the pro bono mission.

Eligibility

The 50+ Section award recognizes attorneys age 50 or older who have provided outstanding pro bono legal service to a low-income New Yorker in need or to a New York organization serving the legal needs of low-income New Yorkers. Generally, nominees will be evaluated based on pro bono service provided in 2026, including number of hours of service provided and the impact of such service on individuals or groups serviced. However, nominators may wish to provide information on service that the nominee rendered over a period of more than one year, for example in a lawsuit. Candidates may be retired or actively engaged in the practice of law.

Award Selection and Presentation

The honoree(s) will be selected by the Executive Committee of the 50+ Section and the Section Chair. The honoree(s) and their nominator(s) will be notified of the selection on or around December 1, 2026. The awards will be presented at the 50+ Section meeting held during the NYSBA Annual Meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 2027 at 8:30 a.m. The recipients will also receive complimentary admission to the 50+ Section program at the Annual Meeting and one year of complimentary membership in the Section.

For Public Officials: The New York State Bar Association is registered with the New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics pursuant to the Lobbying Act to engage in lobbying activities. Consequently, public officials cannot accept certain benefits from the Association. Further information can be obtained by contacting an official's agency ethics officer or the Association at (518) 463-3200.



Deadline

October 31, 2026

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October 31, 2026

Nomination Form

Nominee: _____

Firm/Employer: _____

Business Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Nominator: _____

Firm/Affiliation: _____

Business Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Brief description of individual or population served by nominee:

Nature of service rendered:

Approximate amount of time nominee spent providing pro bono service or frequency of service rendered in 2026:

Nominator

The nominators should be personally familiar with the nominee's pro bono contributions and should nominate only one candidate per year. Letters in support of the nomination are strongly encouraged. Please submit the Nomination Form, along with one to two double-spaced typed pages in which you explain in detail why the nominee should receive the 2027 Pro Bono Award. Up to three additional letters in support may be submitted.

The nomination packet should not exceed 10 pages. Please note that no self-nominations and no nominations postmarked or received electronically after October 31, 2026 will be considered. The nomination packet should be mailed to: New York State Bar Association, attn: Jessica Kirker, One Elk Street, Albany, NY 12207, or emailed to jkirker@nysba.org. Questions may be directed to Jessica Kirker at (518) 487-5654 or jkirker@nysba.org.