



## **“MAKING A DIFFERENCE” PUBLIC RECOGNITION PROGRAM NOMINATION APPLICATION**

Begun by Former Chair of the Section, Magistrate Diane Kirigin, The Family Law Section’s “MAKING A DIFFERENCE” PUBLIC RECOGNITION COMMITTEE seeks to identify, select and publicly acknowledge the efforts of The Florida Bar, Family Law Section members (including Affiliates) who “make a difference” in the lives of the underserved or disadvantaged in our State. Public perception of marital and family law attorneys/judicial officers and those professionals and paraprofessionals who provide forensic and/or support services to us is at an all time low. In 2012, Chair, Carin Porras, is reaffirming the Section’s commitment to recognize the work of its members in keeping with this year’s Section theme of educating and mentoring –through better communication (as well as the Big Bar’s “ONE” *pro bono* campaign), it is the two-prong goal of the Committee to educate the public at large about those Section Members who “make a difference” by providing outstanding *pro bono* services or by engaging in other types of outstanding volunteer community activities/pursuits that improve the lives of Florida’s children and families; **and** to encourage other Section members to undertake new or continuing *pro bono*/volunteer services/activities.

From October and running through the following May, the Committee will select the Section “Member” and “Affiliate Member” of the month. Those selected will be honored in feature articles in FAMSEG, accompanied by press releases, and will receive recognition plaques memorializing their service/activities. These selected nominees will be finalists in what will culminate in the designation of one of the honorees from each category as the Section “Member” and “Affiliate Member” of the Year, to be honored at the Section’s Annual Luncheon in June.

### **TO BE ELIGIBLE THE NOMINEE MUST:**

- \* If the Nominee is an attorney/judicial officer, he or she must be a member of The Florida Bar, in good standing.
- \* Be a member of The Family Law Section.
- \* May be an employee or member of an organization providing free or low cost legal services to the disadvantaged or underserved; however, the *pro bono* services or volunteer activities for which the person is nominated cannot arise from a work related service or activity for which the Nominee is paid {i.e. as part/scope of his or her normal, everyday workload}.
- \* The Nominee’s overall or cumulative *pro bono* and/or volunteer service/activities record may be considered. Consideration of the service/activities of the nominee is not limited to the 2012-2013 Bar year, but must include some service/activities during this period.
- \* The *pro bono* and/or volunteer service/activities must be verifiable by the Committee.

The information requested on this **NOMINATION FORM** should be as complete as possible in order that the Committee has or may obtain if necessary, the information needed to give fair and proper consideration to the Nominee. Client names are not necessary. Client names will not be used for any press releases or other public disclosures without the client's written consent. However, the information on the form or appended hereto must be verifiable by the Committee. It will provide the basis on which the selection is made. **PLEASE ATTACH AS MANY ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NECESSARY.**

1. Please check 1 of the boxes below as appropriate for the **NOMINEE**.

- NOMINEE is a Member of The Florida Bar, Family Law Section.
- NOMINEE is an Affiliate Member of The Florida Bar, Family Law Section.

2. Please identify by name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address the **NOMINEE**. (If the **NOMINEE** is not an attorney/judicial officer, please identify the professional or paraprofessional status of the Affiliate Member. For example, mediator, C.P.A., mental health provider, paralegal, investigator, or other service provider, etc.).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

If Affiliate Member professional or paraprofessional status: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

3. In a separate attachment, describe the ways that the Nominee has voluntarily contributed a significant portion of time to provide *pro bono* and/or volunteer services or participated in community activities to the underserved or disadvantaged in the State of Florida.

**TO BE CONSIDERED, NOMINATIONS MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

- a. A list and description of the cases, matters, activities or services furnished by the **NOMINEE** which are pertinent to this award. Orders/judgments reflecting disposition of *pro bono*/volunteer activities/services; newspaper articles, certificates of recognition for activities/services, and all other manner of supporting documentation may be attached as well.
- b. An estimate of the number of hours the **NOMINEE** contributed to the *pro bono*/community activities/services to the underserved or disadvantaged in the State of Florida.

4. Does the **NOMINEE** participate in a formal *pro bono* program through a legal aid society, local bar association *pro bono* project, legal services private bar involvement project, etc.?

Please check 1 box.             YES             NO             UNKNOWN

If YES, identify the *pro bono* program by name and address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

5. If the nomination is based upon the NOMINEE's *pro bono* services, has that *pro bono* service contribution been made primarily by way of participation in a formal *pro bono* program?

Please check 1 box.             YES             NO             UNKNOWN

If NO, explain how the *pro bono* contribution has been made: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

6. If the NOMINEE is an Affiliate Member and he or she provided *pro bono* services has that *pro bono* service contribution been made primarily by way of participation in a formal *pro bono* program?

Please check 1 box.             YES             NO             UNKNOWN

If NO, explain how the *pro bono* contribution has been made: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

7. If the nomination is based upon the NOMINEE's volunteer activities/services, please describe in detail in a separate attachment those activities/services and the benefits resulting therefrom.

8. How many years has the NOMINEE been practicing in his or her profession. \_\_\_\_\_ years.

9. If available to you, please attach a current resume or C.V. of the NOMINEE. If the resume does not include it, please identify: all local, state and national professional associations and organizations, as well as social service/ humanitarian/charitable associations and organizations of which the NOMINEE is a member. As to each, identify the committees, leadership positions and activities in which the NOMINEE participates and all significant contributions made thereto.

10. Please describe all other awards or honors that the NOMINEE has received related to his or her professional and personal endeavors that may be relevant to consideration of the NOMINEE for this award. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

11. Please identify by name, mailing address, telephone number and email address the person(s)/organizations/associations making this nomination and his/her/their/its relationship to the NOMINEE, if any.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

If an organization or association, provide the name of the primary contact person:

\_\_\_\_\_

IF the address, telephone number or email address for the contact person is different from the above then please complete the following:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature line

If you have any questions, please contact **MAGISTRATE DIANE KIRIGIN** at : **1-561-274 - 2410** or [dkirigin@pbcgov.org](mailto:dkirigin@pbcgov.org) .

**PLEASE RETAIN one (1) copy for your records and SUBMIT one copy of of the completed Nomination Form and all attachments by email to: [dkirigin@pbcgov.org](mailto:dkirigin@pbcgov.org) and be certain to include "Nomination for Making A Difference Recognition" in the Subject line or by US Mail to :**

**MAGISTRATE DIANE KIRIGIN  
South Palm Beach County Courthouse  
200 W Atlantic Ave, Ste 217  
Delray Beach FL 33444**