

NLADA's 2023 Beacon of Justice Awards:

The Intersection of LGBTQ+, Gender, & Racial Equity

NLADA's Beacon of Justice Awards honor members of the pro bono legal community who are tireless advocates for equal justice. Each year the awards highlight one area of pro bono work that dovetails with NLADA's mission of equal access to justice. The 2023 Awards will feature law firms who are addressing issues related to LGBTQ+ rights and/or gender-based equity issues that intersect with racial equity. At NLADA, we understand the interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, gender, and sexual orientation that create interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage. Racial equity work that focuses at the intersection of these social justice issues is very important, and we want to shine a spotlight on firms undertaking these important challenges.

Accordingly, in an effort to be more intentionally inclusive in defining racial equity in 2023, we aim to highlight firms engaging in pro bono work where LGBTQ+ and/or gender equity issues intersect with racial equity in a myriad of ways within their communities and/or on the national level. We also are particularly interested in learning how the private bar actively engages in related projects to solve broader issues of systemic inequities.

Eligible law firms will have provided pro bono legal assistance to families, individuals, organizations, community groups, or others, between January 1 and December 31, 2022.

Application Summary

- **In 800 words or less, describe how the law firm's pro bono work intentionally addressed LGBTQ+ and/or gender-based equity and racial equity**, focusing on that which impacted low income and vulnerable individuals, families, or nonprofit organizations.
- **Attach additional articles or materials** (no more than 3) that illustrate the work described in the narrative summary.
- **Provide the primary contact person(s) in your organization** that we may contact if we have any questions about your application.
- **Identify the number of attorneys in your firm**, the total number of pro bono hours your firm provided between January 1 and December 31, 2022 and the total number of pro bono hours devoted to LGBTQ+ and/or gender-based racial equity work between January 1 and December 31, 2022.
- **Identify if a member of your firm serves on NLADA's Board of Directors.**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 13, 2023

Winners will be notified in early-April and formally recognized on June 8, 2023 during NLADA's Exemplar Awards Gala. NLADA will prepare a video presentation and a digital "print" publication highlighting the work of the winners that will be promoted to the equal justice community, added to the NLADA website, and amplified on social media. Awardees wishing to participate in the video and digital publication will be asked to submit high resolution imagery with accompanying descriptions. For additional information, please contact Aileen Moffatt at a.moffatt@nlada.org.



NLADA
National Legal Aid &
Defender Association