

# Beacon of Justice Award

NLADA's 2022 Beacon of Justice Awards will highlight law firms continuing the work to address racial inequities within their communities and/or on the national level. We also want to recognize law firms developing long-range strategies focusing on sustainability. We invite law firms to use this application process as a moment of reflection and share their future plans to sustain their racial equity work. We are also particularly interested in learning how the private bar is working with local communities to address racial equity or engage in re-imaging projects to solve broader issues.

For example:

- In 2021, did your law firm create working groups to consider how addressing racial disparities should be included in your pro bono projects?
- In 2021, did your law firm work on any community engagement projects to advance the dialogue around racial equity?
- What are the firm's future goals related to pro bono racial equity work, and how will the efforts be sustained?

Eligible law firms will have provided pro bono legal assistance to families, individuals, organizations, community groups, or other groups, between January 1 and December 31, 2021.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 14, 2022**

Racial equity work is a journey rather than a destination. It requires an ongoing commitment to reflection, evaluation, and growth to ensure sustainability and impact. It also requires a broad understanding of the scope of what it means to do racial equity work. Racism touches many aspects of America's legal systems, e.g., child welfare, criminal legal, education, gender violence, health outcomes, housing, immigration status, and juvenile legal. The NLADA community and our pro bono partners are doing amazing work to advance racial equity within these various systems and in partnership with directly impacted communities.

NLADA's focus for the 2022 Beacon of Justice Award is on "Sustaining Racial Equity and Hope." We understand that maintaining the focus on racial equity work can be difficult because of the many competing concerns. We encourage our community and partners to consider long-term strategies and approaches that embed racial equity into their everyday practice and pro bono work.

## Application Summary

1. In 800 words or less, describe how the law firm's pro bono work intentionally addressed sustained anti-racist work, focusing on that which impacted low income and vulnerable individuals, families, or nonprofit organizations.
2. Attach additional articles or materials (no more than 3) that illustrate the work described in the narrative summary.
3. Provide the primary contact person(s) in your organization that we may contact if we have any questions about your application.
4. Identify the number of attorneys in your firm, the total number of pro bono hours your firm provided between January 1 and December 31, 2021, and the total number of pro bono hours devoted to racial equity work between January 1 and December 31, 2021.
5. Identify if a member of your firm serves on NLADA's Board of Directors.

*For additional information, please contact Aileen Moffatt  
a.moffatt@nlada.org or 202-452-0620 x 223.*

Recipients will be notified in mid-March and winners will be recognized on June 9, 2022 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, on the NLADA website, and on social media. Awardees wishing to participate in the video and digital publication will be asked to submit high resolution imagery with accompanying descriptions.