

Criminal Lawyers' Association (CLA)
Ricky Goldman Mensch Award
Terms of Reference
Approved – August 25, 2021

Award History:

A special award that is open to current CLA members that have had a significant impact on the legal community as well as recognized for their local, regional, provincial, national and/or international philanthropy efforts.

Annually, this award can be awarded to up to three individuals with recipients receiving:

1. Plaque/Statue,
2. Monetary donation to a registered charity of recipients choice (up to \$500 each),
3. Recognition at a local event and/or CLA Conference (in person and/or virtual), and;
4. Recognition on the CLA website, emails and social media.

This award is meant to recognize great legal citizenship. Someone that treats colleagues with respect and good humour. Who always has an encouraging word and a twinkle in their eye. This is an award for those lawyers who are friends to us all and brighten our days. We are hopeful that locally CLA members could recognize and celebrate nominees over the beverage of choice.

Why named after Richard Goldman:

As profiled in *For the Defence*, Vol 50, Issue 5: Ricky possessed many great qualities: funny, intelligent, honest, dependable, caring, loving, empathetic, nonjudgmental, great advisor, good listener, loyal as a hound dog, supportive, and a hilarious storyteller.

Note, John Struthers confirmed the family of Richard accepts this award being named after him and are honoured.

Recipient Criterion:

Open to all current CLA members. Nominations are open to any individual properly nominated.

Nomination Process*:

- A call for nominations will be released annually by March 31.

- Nominations will be due by May 31 at 5 p.m. and submitted electronically to the Association's office.
- A nomination package may include the following:
 - A nomination letter (1-3 pages maximum). The letter of nomination will specifically state why the nominee is deserving of this award by providing:
 - Breakdown of the nominees practice in criminal law (years, highlights and achievements)
 - Community involvement – what has this person done around philanthropy – giving back to the community, fellow colleagues, the profession, etc.
 - Any other pertinent information that will assist the Award Selection Committee deliberations.
 - The nominator must be a member of the Criminal Lawyers' Association.
- Nominations are to be submitted electronically in one PDF document to the CLA administration office).
- Nominations are to be submitted in English.
- Nominations will be held in confidence. The nominee is not required to be notified of their nomination.
- Only nominations submitted in accordance with the aforementioned criteria will be accepted.

** For the first year (2021), the CLA Executive/Board will be responsible for submitting nominees for consideration and award based on either Executive or Board approval. The above noted process will commence officially in 2022.*

Award Selection Committee:

The Awards Committee is comprised of the following persons:

1. President of the Criminal Lawyers' Association (or assigned CLA Executive member if the president is not able to participate),
2. One chair of the CLA Membership committee,
3. One CLA Diversity committee member, and;
4. Two current CLA board members.

The award committee will review all complete nomination packages and make a selection(s). The nominator(s) and winner(s) will be notified by July 31 each year. There can be up to three winners per calendar year.

Presentation of the Award:

The award(s) can be presented annually at either a local event or at one of the Criminal Lawyers' Association conferences. The winner(s) will be asked to attend to receive the award as a featured guest.