



Contact: Jennifer Olegario, WSBA Communications Manager
206-727-8212; jennifero@wsba.org

Hon. Bonnie J. Glenn Receives Excellence in Diversity Award

Washington State Office of Administrative Hearings Law Judge acknowledged for career advancing diversity within the legal profession.

SEATTLE, WA [Sept. 28, 2018] – The Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) presented Hon. Bonnie J. Glenn the 2018 Justice Charles Z. Smith Excellence in Diversity APEX Award. This award is given to a lawyer, law firm, or law-related group that has made a significant contribution to diversity in the legal profession. WSBA President William D. Pickett presented the award at the WSBA APEX (Acknowledging Professional Excellence) Awards Dinner on Sept. 27 at the Sheraton Seattle.

Glenn has had a long and storied career. She previously worked for former Sen. Ted Kennedy as a law student, served as a Lead Assistant City Attorney and acting Director of the Domestic Violence Unit with the Seattle City Attorney’s Office, a Deputy Chief of Staff with the King County Prosecutor’s Office, and a Director at the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration. She has been an adjunct professor at Seattle University School of Law and the Criminal Justice Department and has been a champion on juvenile justice matters to include eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in our child welfare and criminal justice systems. Glenn has championed diversity and inclusion throughout her career and has been highly influential in policy, legislative, and community work to include serving on the Seattle Police Department’s Use of Force Review Board.

Glenn was instrumental in the creation of the WSBA At Large Board of Governor seats. She helped the Washington Initiative for Diversity get off the ground and in 2004 was appointed to its board. Throughout her career she has been a leader at the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission and serves as a Co-Chair of the Workforce Diversity Committee. She has been a mentor to many and believes we each have a responsibility to give back and make our society and legal profession the best it can be.

The award is named after Justice Charles Z. Smith, the first person of color to serve on the Washington Supreme Court. In fact, Justice Smith swore in Glenn as a lawyer and she worked alongside him when he was chair of the Minority and Justice Commission.

“She [Glenn] epitomizes how Justice Smith lived his life and the work that he did—showing her commitment to diversity and diverse issues, making people energized and fully committed to want be involved in what we can do to make a difference in the lives of so many people,” said Hon. Richard Jones, U.S. District Court Judge for the Western District of Washington. “... She’s been an amazing contributor to this community. She’s been a stellar, go-to person. When I ask for help, Bonnie is always there. The award is well-deserved and long past due.”

About the Washington State Bar Association

The WSBA operates under the delegated authority of the Washington Supreme Court to license the state’s nearly 40,000 lawyers and other legal professionals. In furtherance of its obligation to protect and serve the public, the WSBA both regulates lawyers and other legal professionals and serves its members as a professional association— all without public funding. The WSBA’s mission is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure the integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice.