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### **J. Donald Curran Receives Professionalism Award**

*Spokane attorney acknowledged for lifetime commitment to promoting ethics and civility in the practice, and pro bono and public service work*

**SEATTLE, WA [Sept. 29, 2017]** — The Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) has presented Spokane attorney J. Donald Curran with the 2017 APEX Award for Professionalism. This honor is awarded to a State Bar member who exemplifies the spirit of professionalism in the practice of law, as defined in the Bar’s Creed of Professionalism. WSBA President Brad Furlong presented the award at the WSBA Annual APEX (Acknowledging Professional Excellence) Awards Dinner on Sept. 28 at the Sheraton Seattle.

J. Donald Curran has made professionalism a lifetime endeavor. He has underwritten an endowed chair position at Gonzaga School of Law dedicated to promoting ethics and civility in the practice. And for many years, he has dedicated countless hours to individuals in hospice care who are at risk of dying without a will.

“For years, Don Curran has been one our state's icons of professionalism and civility in the legal profession,” says WSBA Immediate Past-president William Hyslop. “He ‘walks the walk’ every day and has throughout his illustrious career. Quiet and unassuming, Don Curran leads by doing.”

Curran has served as a member of the WSBA Disciplinary Board, as a hearing officer in disciplinary cases, on the Judicial Recommendation Committee, and as a frequent speaker on ethics. He is a former member of the WSBA Professionalism Committee, a past chair of the WSBA Rules of Professional Conduct Committee, and 2017 Chair of the WSBA Committee on Professional Ethics.

He has received significant awards during his career, including the Washington Young Lawyers’ Division Professionalism Award (1992), Professionalism Award of the Washington State Trial Lawyers Association (1994), Gonzaga University Distinguished Alumni Award (1994), Smithmoore P. Meyers Professionalism Award (1995), WSBA Lifetime Service Award (1996), and the WSBA President’s Award (2009).

### **About the Washington State Bar Association**

The WSBA is part of the judicial branch and is authorized by 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 under the authority of the Court 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. For more information, visit [www.wsba.org](http://www.wsba.org).

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