



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

Dean Standish Perkins Receives Legal Innovation Award
*Seattle attorney recognized for pioneering Seattle University School of Law's
Low Bono Incubator Program*

SEATTLE, WA [Sept. 29, 2017] – The Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) presented Dean Standish Perkins with the 2017 APEX Award in Legal Innovation. This new award recognizes legal professionals, law firms, courts, law schools, individuals, or organizations who demonstrate leadership in promoting innovation in the practice of law. Innovation may be defined as programs, processes, or technology that advance or streamline the future of the profession and accessibility/delivery of legal services. WSBA President Brad Furlong presented the award at the WSBA Annual APEX (Acknowledging Professional Excellence) Awards Dinner on Sept. 28 at the Sheraton Seattle.

In 2013, the Seattle University (SU) School of Law Access to Justice Institute saw a chance to match clients of moderate means with new and young lawyers through an incubator program. Dean Standish “Stan” Perkins helped create the Low Bono Incubator Program, and he has been the driving force behind its success, providing funding and guidance to nearly 20 recent SU Law graduates.

The program began with four incubatees four years ago. This year there were 11 participants who met regularly with Perkins, attended seminars, and benefited from his successful practice and significant experience in personal injury law. Perkins’ work has provided exceptional mentorship and support to new attorneys, with some going so far as to say that they wouldn’t be practicing law were it not for his support. Perkins has made it possible for individuals of moderate means to access legal services otherwise out of their reach.

“In a time when recently graduated young lawyers are cast into the job market to find their own way, Stan Perkins sees an opportunity to guide them toward creating successful small and solo practices through the Seattle University School of Law’s Incubator Program,” says Kristin Baldwin, a Seattle-area business development professional. “Stan’s enthusiasm for this program is contagious, irresistibly drawing in volunteers to assist incubator participants. What he doesn’t publicize is how much he donates to the program in time, money and office space.”

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.

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