

RECIPIENTS OF GBA PRO BONO AWARD (established 1996)

1996 - H. Davis North, III

1997 – No Recipient

1998 – No Recipient

1999 – Herbert S. Falk, Jr.

2000 – Smith Helms Mullis & Moore, L.L.P. – Greensboro Office

2001 – Larry I. Moore, III

2002 – Norman B. Smith and Stephen P. Millikin

2003 – Eugene W. Purdom

2004 – Ronald P. Johnson

2005 –Allison Grimm and Polly Sizemore

2006 –No Recipient

2007 – J. Donald Cowan, Jr. and Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, L.L.P. – Greensboro Office

2008 – All Association Member-Volunteers for the NCBA 4ALL Public Service Day Project Held on April 4, 2008

2009 – All Elon Law School Student Volunteers for the Greensboro Legal Aid Office's 2009 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Project

2010 – Steven E. Black

2011 – No Recipient

2012 – Gregory T. Higgins

2013 – Enyonam K. Williams

2014 – S. Kyle Woosley, Nicole A. Crawford, Alexander Elkan and Kimberly M. Marston
(Greensboro Sanctuary House Representation Team)

2015 – Clifford Division of Clifford Clendenin & O'Hale, LLP

2016 – Amanda C. Feder

WBJ 10/20/16

If you attend GBA membership meetings with some regularity, you know that from time to time we have GBA award presentations at these meetings (like we are doing today).

And if you are really a regular GBA membership meeting attendee, you know that normally there are three of these award presentations each Association program year and that these awards recognize outstanding pro bono service, community service, and distinguished service to the legal profession.

These GBA awards reflect the judgment of your Association Board of Directors that the attributes these awards recognize are important aspects of the practice of law in a broad sense, and they give us as an Association an opportunity to celebrate the outstanding performances of some of our members.

I am advised that October is Legal Pro Bono Month, and today we celebrate a young female member of our Association whose pro bono service in the few years she has been practicing law in Greensboro has been beyond just outstanding or exemplary – it's better described as spectacular – as a matter of fact, in the email message that our friends at the Greensboro Legal Aid Office sent to nominate the attorney we recognize today as our 2016 GBA Pro Bono Award recipient, they said about her that they could not think of anyone more deserving of receiving this award.

And why would they make a statement like that?

Let me read you what Janet McAuley Blue had to say about our award recipient – she has represented multiple clients referred from Legal Aid with a wide variety of legal problems. She has accepted 20 cases from Legal Aid over the past year, providing more than 100 hours of pro bono service. She has handled four housing cases (including one jury trial), nine expungements, six powers of attorney, and one will preparation matter. Legal Aid went on to point out that six of the nine expungements our award recipient handled resulted in completely clean records, giving these persons a fresh start and significantly improving their chances of obtaining or maintaining employment, housing and other benefits.

By any standard, those actions certainly qualify as outstanding pro bono service.

So who is this pro bono hero that we're recognizing today? Well, she's really one of our own, because she's a Greensboro native and a Grimsley High School graduate, and after her high school years here in Greensboro, she earned an undergraduate degree at Emory University in Atlanta and then a JD degree in 2009 from Vermont Law School.

Thereafter she moved to San Francisco to become an Associate Attorney with the non-profit Homeless Action Center there, where she advocated for people who were homeless and mentally ill. Her work as a public interest attorney was so outstanding that she was recognized with the Homeless Action Center's prestigious "Honey Badger" Award in 2013.

But the lure of coming back home to North Carolina was too strong to keep her in California forever, so in 2014 she returned to Greensboro and began practicing first with the Chapman Law Firm and then since June of 2015 as an Associate with the Justice Law Group, where her practice areas include immigration, real estate, criminal law, and general civil litigation.

Her name is Amanda C. Feder, and she's the mother of a two year old toddler named Nicholas and the wife of a mechanical engineer whose name is Scott - - in addition to her Legal Aid activities, she is involved with Family Services of the Piedmont and sometimes serves as a court appointed attorney for DSS.

She deserves our recognition as the 2016 GBA Pro Bono Award recipient, and she's a wonderful example of the pro bono service all GBA members can seek to follow.

Amanda, you've made pro bono service an important part of your legal practice in Greensboro, and many people in this community and elsewhere have a better life now because of your compassion and your good work. So today the Greensboro Bar Association celebrates and recognizes you with our 2016 Pro Bono Award.

Erwin Fuller

From: Janet McAuley-Blue <Janetm@legalaidnc.org>
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2016 3:01 PM
To: Erwin Fuller
Cc: Renee Gabriel-Alford
Subject: Pro Bono Award Nomination of Amanda Feder

Mr. Fuller:

It's my pleasure to nominate Amanda Feder for the Greensboro Bar Association's pro bono award. Amanda is the mother of a toddler, very busy with other community work and has a busy practice at the Justice Law firm. She still finds time to represent multiple clients referred from Legal Aid with a wide variety of legal problems. Amanda accepted 20 cases from LANC over the past year, providing over 100 hours of pro bono service. She has handled 4 housing cases, including one jury trial, 9 expungements, 6 powers of attorney, and 1 will. In 6 out of the 9 expungement cases she handled, the client's record was completely clean after the charges were expunged, giving them a fresh start and increasing their chances of obtaining or maintaining employment, housing, and other benefits.

Amanda is an associate in the Justice Law firm. She is married to Scott Feder and is the mother of 2 year old Nicholas. In addition to volunteering for LANC, she is an active volunteer for Family Services of the Piedmont. I know that she was very active in planning for their fundraiser. I feel sure Amanda is involved in other community activities. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this award. Thank you for the opportunity to nominate her for the pro bono award.

Janet McAuley Blue
Managing Attorney
Legal Aid of North Carolina
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(336) 398-1709



After graduating from Vermont Law School in 2009, Amanda moved to California to pursue a career in public interest law. Amanda joined The Justice Law Group as an associate in June of 2015 and currently practices immigration, real estate law, and general civil and criminal litigation.

Amanda has always been passionate about giving back to her community. She continues to represent low-income clients as a pro bono attorney for the Legal Aid of North Carolina and is also an active member of the Guild of Family Service of Greensboro.