

Nominations Sought for OWLS 2015 Workplace Leader Award

The 2015 award recipient will be honored during
OWLS' Fall CLE on Friday, October 16, 2015

The Workplace Leader Award recognizes an Oregon legal employer making innovative and effective efforts to promote one or more of the following values:

- A healthy balance between work and personal life
- Acquiring and maintaining a diverse workforce with diverse leadership
- Maximizing opportunities for women and minorities to succeed in the workplace and advance to positions of influence and leadership

OWLS mission is to transform the practice of law and ensure justice and equality by advancing women and minorities in the legal profession

We believe that law as traditionally practiced has included barriers to the advancement of women and minorities and has not always been a friend to those seeking a healthy, balanced life. We seek to encourage and celebrate change that will eliminate those barriers and imbalances, and we expect the profession will be stronger as a result.



While most legal employers agree in concept that such changes are needed, many disagree on how to achieve these goals. How can legal employers help parents of small children avoid losing the momentum in their legal careers to become leaders in the profession? How can part-time or flex-time employment work for both

employer and employee? How can legal employers promote effective mentoring relationships? What can they do to attract and retain qualified women and minority lawyers and equip them for leadership? How can they value contributions to the organization that are not captured by the usual quantification tools, such as billable hours?

We look for a specific program, policy, project

We are not looking for an employer to exemplify all of these virtues. Rather, the award will recognize *a specific program, policy, or project* that is successfully addressing one or more of the concerns outlined above. We particu-

larly want to encourage applications from in-house legal departments, government employers, and employers who are making strides in recruiting and retaining women and minority lawyers and equipping them for leadership.

Nomination Information

Nominations should include: information that will help the award committee evaluate the specific program, policy, or project of the employer; the markers of success for that program, policy, or project; and names of people who can be contacted for further information.

Nominations must be received via email by 5:00 p.m. Monday, June 1, 2015.

Please send them to Val Tomasi, OWLS transformation committee co-chair:
vtomasi@tsbnlaw.com.