2020 ANNUAL AWARDS RECEPTION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10TH 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM.
We are indebted to the countless law firms, corporate legal departments, foundations and individuals that have partnered with us to help make our mission to secure equal justice under law possible. In 1963, President John F. Kennedy issued a call for lawyers to mobilize to help combat discrimination and protect the rights of African Americans who were being brutalized across the South. While some progress has been made, we know that this progress is fragile and can be easily unraveled. As we prepare for a change in administration, the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law will carry forward President Kennedy’s legacy and continue to press for policies that ensure that equal justice under law is provided for all Americans. We must move into 2021 ready to mount an aggressive fight to protect rights that lie at the heart of our democracy. We can’t afford to become stagnant on voting rights, criminal justice reform, education, fair housing, policing reform and economic justice. This work must remain at the forefront of our national agenda. You can help bolster our efforts by going to our website at www.lawyerscommittee.org and making a generous tax-deductible donation to the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law today. The fate of American democracy is at stake.

In solidarity,
Kristen Clarke
Please join the ceremony with the following links:

https://www.facebook.com/rolandsmartinfanpage/posts/10158155202152831

https://youtu.be/zQsJ7E_4-Us
PROGRAM

LLOYD N. CUTLER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Gay Johnson McDougall, Distinguished Scholar-In-Residence

WHITNEY NORTH SEYMOUR AWARD
Teresa Wynn Roseborough, EVP, General Counsel & Secretary

ROBERT F. MULLEN PRO BONO AWARD
Latham & Watkins LLP

BROOKS R. BURDETTE BEST NEW BOARD MEMBER AWARD
Sadik Huseny, Partner, Latham & Watkins LLP

FRANK R. PARKER CLIENT AWARDS
Reverend Gregory B. Drumwright, Organizer, Justice for the Next Generation
Quencelyn Ellison, President, Alamance Alliance for Justice
A recipient of the prestigious MacArthur “Genius” Award, McDougall has spent her career working on issues of race, gender, and economic justice in the US and global context.

She has been a leader on human rights within the UN for over three decades. She was the first UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues. Serving for 6 years she traveled to 17 countries for the UN to study discriminatory laws and practices. She recently completed 8 years of service on the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination that oversees compliance with the International Convention on Racial Discrimination. And she played a leadership role in the UN Third World Conference against Racism in Durban.

McDougall was a member of the South African governmental body created to administer South Africa’s first democratic elections in 1994, which elected President Nelson Mandela and ended apartheid. For 15 years prior, as Director of the Southern Africa Project of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, she worked closely with South African lawyers to secure the release of thousands of political prisoners from jail. In 2015 the Government of South Africa bestowed on her their national medal of honor for non-citizens, the Order of O.R. Tambo Medal for her extraordinary contributions to ending apartheid.

Her next 14 years were spent as Executive Director of Global Rights, a human rights group that worked with activists in over 10 countries.

McDougall received a J.D. from Yale Law School and an LL.M. from the London School of Economics and Political Science. She has honorary Doctor of Law degrees from nine universities including Georgetown University Law Center, Emory University School of Law, the University of Witwatersrand (South Africa), and the University of London. She is currently Distinguished Scholar in Residence with the Leitner Center on International Law and Justice at Fordham Law School and the Center on Race, Law & Justice.
The Whitney North Seymour Award is presented to a Board member who exemplifies the legacy of service and integrity that characterized the life of Whitney North Seymour. As president of the American Bar Association Mr. Seymour articulated a mission for the legal profession that continues today. “The Bar’s purpose,” he stated, “is to see to it that there is adequate representation for all: the rich, the poor, the unpopular and the despised.”

Teresa Wynn Roseborough is Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for The Home Depot, the world’s largest home improvement retailer. Teresa leads The Home Depot’s legal functions, including securities, litigation, employment, mergers and acquisitions, real estate, store operations, risk management and intellectual property. As corporate secretary, Teresa supports the board of directors and is responsible for corporate governance matters. She also is responsible for the company’s government relations.

Before joining The Home Depot in 2011, Teresa was MetLife’s Deputy General Counsel. Prior to MetLife, Teresa was a partner at Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP. Teresa’s background includes government service as Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Office of Legal Counsel of the Justice Department, service as a law clerk for Justice John Paul Stevens of the U.S. Supreme Court and Judge James Dickson Phillips of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, and service in West Germany as a Department of Defense civilian.

Teresa earned a bachelor’s of arts degree from the University of Virginia, a master’s degree in education from Boston University, and a juris doctor with high honors from the University of North Carolina School of Law, where she was editor in chief of the Law Review.
The Robert F. Mullen Award is named in honor of Bob Mullen, who was an extraordinary leader of the bar, a staunch advocate of pro bono legal services and a fierce activist in the struggle for racial equality. Bob served as Lawyers’ Committee co-chair from 1989 to 1991 and was a partner at the Cravath, Swaine & Moore law firm. The Award honors a law firm that has provided extraordinary pro bono legal services on behalf of a Lawyers’ Committee client or matter.

At Latham & Watkins, pro bono is ingrained in our very culture. We believe that the practice of law includes the unique ability and responsibility to advocate for equal justice and provide needed representation to persons of limited means.

As one of the world’s largest providers of pro bono service, we have donated more than 3.2 million hours in free legal services to underserved individuals and the nonprofit sector around the globe. Our lawyers undertake pro bono work in nearly every area of public interest law, including criminal justice reform, civil rights, human rights and immigration. In addition, our lawyers and professional staff organize legal clinics and advise charities, nonprofit organizations, and social enterprises working to address critical social problems.

Our pro bono work ranges from large-scale impact litigation — aimed at achieving systemic change — to counseling individual clients as they seek asylum, pursue restraining orders, or struggle with the economic effects of COVID-19. Regardless of the size or scale of the matter, we approach each with dedication, passion, and a commitment securing access to justice for everyone.

We are proud to have partnered with the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law for more than two decades, and very honored to receive the 2020 Robert F. Mullen Pro Bono Award.
The Brooks R. Burdette Best New Board Member Award is named in honor of Brooks Burdette, an outstanding leader of the Board who upon joining declared “I am going to be the best Board member ever.” With this award, the Lawyers’ Committee recognizes a new board member who has demonstrated innovative and dynamic leadership in advancing the Lawyers’ Committee’s mission.

Described by some as a Category 5 hurricane in reverse, Sadik Huseny specializes in bringing order, innovation, and long-term vision to the chaos and uncertainty of complex litigation. Before trial courts, arbitration tribunals, appellate courts and the Supreme Court, he has developed critical expertise in guiding clients to successful resolution at all stages of bet-the-company litigation. He thrives at trial and is a skillful complex strategist focused on providing clients value as they define it—and winning their most critical challenges and disputes.

Sadik has achieved recognition representing some of the world’s leading companies and technology titans in antitrust litigation, complex commercial litigation, and government investigations. His clients have included Oracle, American Airlines, National Association of Broadcasters, Live Nation/Ticketmaster, AU Optronics, Symantec, Apple, PG&E Corporation, Eaton Electrical, The Hearst Corporation, Dignity Health, Toshiba, Broadcom, ATMI, and Lextar Electronics.

Driven by a deep commitment to social justice, Sadik is also a passionate advocate of pro bono representation for those most in need—and the organizations serving them. The former chair of Latham’s San Francisco Pro Bono Committee, he has spent 17+ years working on criminal justice reform, civil rights, human rights and immigration issues. His efforts have resulted in large-scale impact changes (overturning San Francisco’s system of pre-arraignment cash bail; challenging police surveillance) to victories for children and adults seeking asylum and immigration relief, victims of civil rights violations seeking recompense, and parolees seeking to reintegrate into society. His social justice work extends beyond the legal realm through his support of Lava Mae, an innovative nonprofit founded by his wife, Doniece Sandoval—which has transformed street care by delivering showers and Radical Hospitality to the unhoused in the Bay Area and is now an accelerator teaching the world.

Gregory Drumwright is one of America’s most promising rising public theologians and social justice organizers. His work has been seen on CNN, ABC, FOX, NBC and featured in articles published by Forbes, The New York Times, Washington Post, Bloomberg and Newsweek. He is a graduate of NC A&T State University, where he served as Student Body President, and Wake Forest University.

Drumwright is regarded as being “today’s voice for tomorrow’s generation.” His works as a faith leader, professor, millennial/Gen Z and a racial equity expert has garnered him various platforms to share his message of education, empowerment and encouragement to more than a million people. Rev. Drumwright’s local parish, The Citadel Church in Greensboro, NC, has become a case study for attracting large millennial audiences despite a sharp decline in religious practice across all church denominations.

Gregory is a three-time musical concert guest performer in the White House, a commencement speaker from elementary to collegiate stages, and an internationally traveled activist. He has spread his message of non-violence and reconciliatory practice to multigenerational audiences, corporate entities and public establishments. Drumwright’s reach has proven to be ecumenical, building the beloved community, indiscriminate of race, religion, gender, orientation and social status. He serves as a professor of Public Speaking and Human Communication at High Point University, and the Senior Principal Consultant for L.E.A.D., while preparing for his sophomore record release: Songs of Justice, Reconciliation and Peace.

Governor Roy Cooper conferred the Old North State Award upon Gregory for more than 20 years of community work and appointed him to serve on the NC Courts Commission as the only non-attorney/non-legislative representative for NC citizenry. Greg has become a vital voice in shaping policies pertaining to Criminal Justice Reform and prohibiting the use of underage vaping. In February 2020, Black Business Ink magazine honored him as one of the Top 40 under 40 most influential African American leaders.
Quenclyn Ellison is an Alamance County native. Prior to becoming the president of the Alamance Alliance for Justice, Quenclyn was an Alamance County Department of Social Services Caseworker. Excited about having this opportunity for upward mobility in her early 20’s, Quenclyn was feeling drawn to assist those in her community. As a caseworker, she experienced and recognized the very obvious racial and economic inequities in Alamance County. These disparities led Quenclyn to decide that she wanted to advocate for people in a way that was not controlled by the government.

At the height of the racial justice crisis surrounding George Floyd’s death, Quenclyn along with other activist reached out to organizers such as Pastor Gregory Drumwright to address the long overdue issues of racial inequities in Alamance County. Alamance Alliance for Justice was birthed from the organizing and the planning around the July 11th march for justice. Since the hot day in July, Quenclyn and her coalition partners have kept the fire going in their fight for justice, and have every intention of continuing until justice and equality is a reality in Alamance County.

Quenclyn and her two younger siblings were raised in Burlington, NC by their mother. Her two children ages 15 and 11, are her greatest joy and accomplishment. Quenclyn takes pride in her efforts to provide her children, as well as other youth in the county an opportunity to reside in a region that is more inclusive and welcoming to all people. She values the advocacy of the people in her community and others across the nation that are calling for change.
THANK YOU!

On behalf of the board and staff of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, our special thanks to our partners, supporters and volunteers that help to make our work to advance equal justice under law possible.