



American College of Trial Lawyers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ACTL CREATES NEW EQUALITY AND JUSTICE AWARD

NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA (September 15, 2020) – The American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL) has created a new award which will honor persons who have fought for equality and justice and against racism. The award, to be presented from time to time whenever worthy recipients are identified, will recognize those who have been champions of justice and equality in all forms, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation.

In announcing the award, ACTL Regents Joe Caldwell and Richard Deane, who co-chaired the committee that determined its parameters, observed:

“Recurring issues of race and inequality are again at the forefront of our public discourse. Both the U.S. and Canada have long grappled with these issues through much of our history. Now, the tragic deaths of George Floyd and too many others have again put a spotlight on injustices and inequalities that continue to plague our pursuit of equality and justice for all. . . The College wishes to recognize champions who have fought for equality and justice and against racism in keeping with standards for such an award to be established by the College.”

ACTL President Douglas R. Young said, “This new award is more than just a public statement; it represents a significant and lasting commitment to equality and justice. Each time the award is considered and each time it is presented will be a reminder that all persons are worthy of respect and equal access to justice in our societies.”

The award will be named after a visionary leader whose name will represent courage and incomparable dedication and commitment to the struggle for equality and justice. The College expects the first award to be made in 2021.

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About the American College of Trial Lawyers

The American College of Trial Lawyers is comprised of the best of the trial bar from the United States and Canada and is widely considered to be the premier professional trial organization in

North America. Founded in 1950, the College is an invitation only fellowship. The College thoroughly investigates each nominee for admission and selects only those who have demonstrated the very highest standards of trial advocacy, ethical conduct, integrity, professionalism and collegiality. The College maintains and seeks to improve the standards of trial practice, professionalism, ethics, and the administration of justice through education and public statements on important legal issues relating to its mission. The College strongly supports the independence of the judiciary, trial by jury, respect for the rule of law, access to justice, and fair and just representation of all parties to legal proceedings. Learn more at www.actl.com.

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