

# LES WILLIAMS

## DIVERSITY AWARD



The SMCBA Diversity Committee seeks nominations for its annual Les Williams Diversity Award. This award is named in honor of Les Williams who set an example for all of us in how to overcome adversity and discrimination. He was a member of the famed Tuskegee Airmen during World War II rising to captain as one of the first African-American aviators in American military history. Throughout his life he battled prejudice including in the military and then after the war. As Les recalled, those were the days when no one had to salute blacks but blacks could be court-martialed for not saluting a white officer. The outstanding achievements of the Tuskegee Airmen led to the abolishment of racial discrimination in the military and the Airmen being awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. After the war, he became a businessman and later at age 50 graduated Stanford Law School becoming an attorney. He was a member of the Private Defender program for many years and was active in many community activities. He gained the respect of all through his quiet dignity and gentle demeanor in the pursuit of justice.

The Diversity Award recognizes an individual or organization who has demonstrated a meaningful and consistent commitment to increasing and maintaining diversity in San Mateo County at all levels of the legal profession. Nominees will exemplify the Diversity Committee's goal of promoting equality in the San Mateo County Bench and Bar for all underrepresented minorities and other groups. The Award will be presented at the Annual Speakers' Series.

Please submit the nomination form below to SMCBA:

San Mateo County Bar Association  
Attn: Diversity Chairman  
333 Bradford St., Suite 150  
Redwood City, CA 94063

or send via email to [SMCountybar@smcba.org](mailto:SMCountybar@smcba.org). The deadline for nominations is **September 13<sup>th</sup> of the current year.**

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Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Submitting Nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of how Nominee is qualified for the Award: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach any relevant resume, biography, program description,  
etc.**