

Negligence Law Section

Negligence Law Section Quarterly

Spring 2021

Message from the Chair

Negligence Section Awards

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AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

This year the Negligence Law Section has the pleasure of honoring six outstanding individuals for their contribution to the legal profession and their unwavering commitment to excellence. Each of the award recipients will be honored this summer at the Past Chairpersons Dinner to be held at the Detroit Golf Club on June 24, 2021, or at the Summer Reception to be held at the Cascade Hills Country Club on August 12, 2021. Please join me in congratulating this years' recipients.

1. EARL J. CLINE AND SHERWIN SCHREIR AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE.



Daniel P. Makarski

This years' recipient for the Earl J. Cline and Sherwin Schreir Award for Excellence is **Daniel P. Makarski**, a partner in the law firm of Secret Wardle in Troy, Michigan. This award is presented to one individual in recognition of their superb skills as an attorney in the field of negligence law and dispute resolution. Dan needs no introduction as he is well-known by many of us across the State of Michigan for his outstanding work as a trial lawyer and mediator. Dan is called upon on a regular basis to help resolve complex civil disputes involving various issues and situations. Throughout his career, Dan has consistently demonstrated a commitment to excellence and has helped parties resolve thousands of cases. Dan will be recognized for his outstanding contribution to the legal profession at the Past Chairperson Dinner to be held on June 24, 2021 at the Detroit Golf Club.

2. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD.



Madelyne C. Lawry



Todd Tennis

This year we have two outstanding individuals who will be receiving the Distinguished Service Award. Specifically, **Madelyne C. Lawry**, the Executive Director for the Negligence Law Section, and **Todd Tennis**, a long-standing consultant and lobbyist with Capital Services, Inc., who has provided incredible assistance and insight to the Negligence Law Section. This award is presented to an individual(s) in recognition of their extraordinary service to the Negligence Law Section and their sustained commitment to the Section, its members and its mission. Both Madelyne and Todd have consistently demonstrated their commitment to the Section for many years. Their insight, loyalty and wisdom has been a tremendous benefit to the Section. Madelyne and Todd will be recognized at the Past Chairpersons Dinner on June 24, 2021 at the Detroit Golf Club.

3. OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.



E. Thomas McCarthy

The Negligence Law Section's Outstanding Achievement Award will be given to **E. Thomas McCarthy**, a partner in the law firm of Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Outstanding Achievement Award is given each year to a lawyer in recognition of their distinguished and outstanding service to the legal community during their career. Thomas McCarthy is an outstanding trial lawyer who has enjoyed tremendous success in many areas of the law, including representing plaintiffs and defendants in personal injury litigation, commercial litigation, medical malpractice and criminal law. He will be recognized at the Summer Reception on August 12, 2021 at the Cascade Hills Country Club in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

4. JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD.



Hon. Janet T. Neff

The Negligence Law Section is pleased to present the Judicial Excellence Award to the **Hon. Janet T. Neff**, U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Michigan. This award is presented to a sitting judge in recognition of their superior and outstanding skills as a jurist. The award is given each year to one judge who exemplifies the trust, civility, integrity and ethical standards necessary to promote the resolution of civil disputes and for allowing skilled attorneys to exercise their skills in the courtroom. Judge Neff is a highly regarded jurist who has dedicated her professional career to serving the citizens of our State. Judge Neff will be recognized for her distinguished service to the citizens of the State of Michigan at the Summer Reception on August 12, 2021 at the Cascade Hills Country Club in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

5. DISTINGUISHED MEDIATOR AWARD.



William W. Jack, Jr.

This year, the Section has created a new award; namely, the Distinguished Mediator Award. This award recognizes an outstanding attorney with superior skills in dispute resolution who exemplifies the trust, civility, integrity and ethical standards necessary to foster the settlement of disputes between adverse parties and advance the efficient administration of justice. The Section is happy to announce that this award will be given to **William W. Jack, Jr.**, a partner in the law firm of Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Bill Jack is well-known and highly regarded throughout the State of Michigan for his outstanding skills as a mediator. His contribution to the legal profession has been unprecedented. Bill Jack will be recognized during the Summer Reception on August 12, 2021 at the Cascade Hills Country Club in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

I look forward to seeing all of you in person this summer to help celebrate and recognize this year's award recipients.

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