

Outstanding Attorney and Judge Honored at 2017 Annual Florida Bar Convention

The Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc. and The Florida Bar Law Related Education Committee were honored to recognize two outstanding members of the Florida legal community at the 2017 Judicial Luncheon at The Florida Bar Convention in June. Throughout this past year, FLREA and The Florida Bar Law Related Education Committee have worked collaboratively on many important projects requiring the dedication of volunteer attorneys and judges to aid in their success. The following award recipients played a critical role in the success of these important law related education initiatives.

2017 Attorney of the Year Award Recipient: Ashlee A. Pouncy, Esq.



Attorney Ashlee Pouncy serves on the Law Related Education Committee and has actively assisted the committee and the Executive Director of FLREA Annette Boyd Pitts in the promotion of the new digital app created by The Florida Bar to help young adults understand how our laws and legal system may impact their lives differently once they turn 18. Everything from jury service to landlord tenant issues to credit and voting as well as drinking and driving laws, penalties for fake ids, and so much more are included in this new resource. #JustAdulting was created to reach students and young adults in an innovative and compact way to help disseminate important information and generate awareness. Ms. Pouncy has assisted in the presentation of the new app during statewide student programs coordinated by The Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc. and she assists with updating the content of the mobile website and digital app for the committee based on changes in state law.

Ms. Pouncy has a longstanding relationship with law related education. This year she served as a state and national judge for the We the People...the Citizen and the Constitution education program administered by FLREA. She also served as the keynote speaker addressing hundreds of middle and high school students from a variety of high needs schools. Her commitment to the We the People constitutional education program spans many years. She participated in the program as a high school senior in 2004 at Miami Carol City High School law magnet as part of her Advanced Placement Government class. The class won first place in district and third in the state constitutional academic competition that year. She realizes the importance of these and other civic and law related education programs in educating students with rigor and relevance about the role of the courts and the Constitution in their lives.



Ms. Pouncy previously served as staff attorney to Justice Peggy Quince and presently serves as President-Elect of the Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter of the National Bar Association. She is a civil litigation and appellate associate in the Miami office of Hamilton, Miller & Birthisel (HMB). We thank you for your service in the area of civic and law related education. We present Ashlee Pouncy with the 2017 Attorney of the Year Award.

2017 Judge of the Year Award Recipient: Judge Steve Jewett



Orange County Judge Steve Jewett has been an incredible supporter of civic and law-related education at the state level assisting The Florida Law Related Education Association with implementation of the local and state Florida High School Mock Trial Competitions. He assists regularly with recruiting judges for the massive competition which features winning teams from each of Florida's 20 judicial circuits annually. He works actively to ensure that students interact with real judges throughout the competition which often means recruiting as many as ten to forty sitting judges to work nights and weekends to preside over the high school trials. You will find Judge Jewett not only recruiting for the program but serving as presiding judge himself during multiple rounds throughout the three-day competition as well as during the final round. He is loved and respected by the student competitors and we greatly appreciate his commitment to this volunteer-based program.

Judge Jewett's commitment is not confined to the Florida High School Mock Trial program. He works annually with our constitutional education programs and evaluates student knowledge and understanding of the U.S. Constitution. He participates in middle and high school academic competitions to assess student knowledge of judicial review, the role of the courts, and landmark cases.

Judge Jewett has served on the Orange County bench since 2007 in both the criminal and civil divisions. He has served as President of the Central Florida Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys and a Board Member of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys. Additionally, he has been a member of The Florida Bar's Domestic Violence Committee and the Continuing Education Committee.



We are grateful for Judge Jewett's past and ongoing dedication to civic and law related education in Florida and were honored to present Judge Jewett with the 2017 Judge of the Year Award.