



Nov. 9, 2015

## Local Lawyers Recognized for Pro Bono work

NAMPA – Last year 750 Idaho attorneys reported volunteering 14,000 hours of free legal work for 2,100 low-income persons. A handful of those attorneys have been singled out by the Idaho State Bar for the Denise O’Donnell Day Pro Bono Award. Award winners were selected for their extraordinary time and effort to resolve legal issues for low-income clients.

**Reese Eugene Verner**, Nampa, has been selected for a “Lifetime Achievement Award” for a career punctuated by good works and pro bono legal service to those who needed help. Mr. Verner served as pro bono counsel on 23 cases between 1995 and 2014, coordinating his efforts with the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program. Most of these cases were guardianships and all were for low-income people in the Third Judicial District.

**Barbara Ferre**, a public defender in Nampa, is being honored for her representation of a rural Canyon County mother who was seeking modification of a custody order in order to protect children from an abusive and violent father. Ms. Ferre spent 60 hours on this pro bono project while managing to negotiate a settlement that achieved her client’s objectives in the modification case and added stability to the lives of these young children. Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program also wishes to recognize Kerry Michaelson who agreed to act as Ms. Ferre’s mentor on this matter.

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For more information, contact the attorney directly, or Idaho State Bar Communications Director Dan Black at [dblack@isb.idaho.gov](mailto:dblack@isb.idaho.gov) or (208) 955-8866.

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