



Top Service Attorneys Announced
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The Fourth District Bar Association recognized its annual Rule 6.1 Challenge winners and Liberty Bell Award recipient Thursday night during the Law Day reception and *Access to Justice Idaho* campaign fund drive kickoff. Maria Andrade, of Andrade Legal, received the 2017 Liberty Bell Award, which acknowledges outstanding community service by an individual in the local community who embodies the Law Day theme, “The 14th Amendment: Transforming American Democracy.”

Chief Justice Roger Burdick, who emceed the event, noted that Maria Andrade “is always in the running for pro bono awards” as the result of her work with individuals facing difficult immigration issues, and stated that “whenever she’s asked to talk to community groups, she goes.” Ms. Andrade could not be present, so her senior associate, Chris Christensen, accepted on her behalf. He lauded Ms. Andrade’s substantial recent efforts in the immigration community in Idaho, including creation of the Idaho Organizing Project.

The 6.1 Challenge, named after Idaho Rule of Professional Conduct 6.1, encourages and recognizes pro bono and public service activities by Fourth District Bar attorneys and firms. For the second straight year, the legal department of Micron Technology, Inc., which logged 461.5 hours of pro bono work, won the 6.1 Challenge award in the corporate category. Perkins Coie’s Boise branch was the top large firm category winner; Alidjani Law, PLLC, won in the small firm category; Lisa Nordstrom of Idaho Power earned the individual attorney award; and the Office of the State Appellate Public Defender won the government law office category.

“It’s about finding something that you like to do, because there are so many ways to do pro bono, and the reward is seeing the payback from whoever it is you’re working with,” said Brian Dickson, who accepted the award on behalf of the Office the State Appellate Public Defender.

Rule 6.1 states that every lawyer has a professional responsibility to provide legal services to those unable to pay. A lawyer should aspire to render at least 50 hours of pro bono legal services per year to people of limited means or to charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, and educational organizations. More than 40 attorneys completed the 6.1 Challenge this year, from April 2016 to April 2017.

As part of Law Day, which celebrates the United States’ legal system, the Fourth District Bar Association is sponsoring its annual Ask-A-Lawyer program on Monday, May 1. Anyone can call one of the following three numbers between 5 a.m. and 3 p.m. to receive up to 15 minutes of free legal advice: (208) 209-5124; (208) 209-5107; and (208) 209-5194. Callers will leave their first name, contact info, and a brief summary of their legal question with a clerk and a licensed attorney will return their call on the same day, depending on the amount of questions received.

“Idaho Law Day is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the liberty, justice, and equality promised in American jurisprudence,” said Catherine Freeman, chairperson of the Fourth District Bar’s Idaho Law Day Committee. She noted that the Ask-A-Lawyer event is an integral part of Law Day because it allows the general public a unique opportunity to easily and directly connect with lawyers to discuss their legal issues for free. She encouraged anyone needing answers to pressing legal questions to call in to the event on Monday, May 1.