



Community Service and Elder Law Awards Available to NAELA Members

The National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys currently has two awards available, for which any NAELA member in good standing who meets the award's criteria can be nominated. Following is a description of the awards.

The Theresa Award

The Theresa Award is an annual community service award presented by the Theresa Alessandra Russo Foundation to a NAELA member in recognition of his/her advocacy and support of individuals with disabilities. Through the efforts of the selected NAELA member, individuals with disabilities are able to achieve a better quality of life, protect their rights and preserve their dignity.



The award was established in memory of Theresa Alessandra Russo, the daughter of NAELA Past President Vincent and Susan Russo. The award is funded through a grant from the Theresa Alessandra Russo Foundation.

The recipient of the award is announced at the NAELA Symposium and honored at the Theresa Foundation's Annual Awards Dinner in New York in April. The Theresa Foundation also contributes a cash grant of \$2,000 to an organization named by the recipient of the award, that assists and supports children with disabilities.

There are many NAELA members who are worthy of this Community Service Award. It is a wonderful opportunity for a NAELA member to nominate a colleague who is "making a difference" in the lives of those in need. Nominations are now being accepted at the NAELA office. ●

The Powley Elder Law Award

This newly established award is intended to be presented to a NAELA member who has demonstrated a commitment to promote, in the minds of the general public, a greater understanding of the rights and needs of the elderly and how elder law attorneys advocate for those rights.

The award is established in the memory of Wes and Helen Powley, grandparents of NAELA Member Tim Takacs. Both Wes and Helen were active in civic affairs for all of their lives and Wes practiced dentistry well into his 80s. The award is funded by a grant from the Takacs Family Foundation.

The recipient of the Powley Elder Law Award is announced at the NAELA Institute and a \$1000 cash grant will be made in the recipient's name to the non-profit organization of his or her choice.

Nominations for either award can be made by contacting NAELA Executive Director, Laury Adsit Gelardi at 1604 N. Country Club Road, Tucson, AZ 85716-3102; or they can be faxed to her at (520) 325-7925. The annual deadline for nominations for the Theresa Award is January 15. The annual deadline for nominations for the Powley Award is September 15. ●