

2022 OBA AWARDS

AWARD OF JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE



Judge Jennifer Brock, Newkirk

Judge Jennifer Brock has been named the recipient of the Award of

Judicial Excellence for her tireless efforts to implement and fund two specialty courts in Kay County. The goal of the Family Treatment Court program is to teach parents how to create and sustain a safe, substance-free home, thereby increasing the odds of family reunification. The Anna McBride Court program focuses on mental health and substance abuse, exploring alternatives to incarceration for offenders charged with criminal offenses. Also, because there are only a few veterans courts in Oklahoma, a veterans track was added. Veterans with mental health and substance problems are provided a mentor who guides them toward specific services and helps them find solutions for their particular needs.

Interest in these programs has grown steadily throughout Kay County thanks to the ongoing efforts of Judge Brock. She created two teams consisting of the district attorney, defense attorneys, treatment providers, the

jail's crisis intervention coordinator, ICWA tribal workers, court coordinators and an advisory group. She meets with each team regularly to solicit their input and feedback on participants and issues that arise.

Judge Brock was the driving force behind funding both programs. She helped secure a grant of \$72,000 per year for five years for the Family Treatment Court beginning in July 2019, and she was responsible for securing a \$60,000 grant per year for five years from the state of Oklahoma for the Anna McBride Court that started in January 2020.

She also oversees the Kay County Adult DUI/Drug Court. The prior existence of the court was implemented by Judge Philip Ross, who appointed Judge Brock to her current position, and it is what prompted the Anna McBride and Family Treatment courts. Her assignment to the court, in addition to working with the team, helped her realize they needed more. Judge Brock has recently received funding for and has started the process to implement an Adult Drug/DUI Court in Noble County as well.

While many believe these specialty courts would not exist today without her dedication and leadership, Judge Brock is quick to give praise to the work of others, crediting the programs' successes to the skills and resources of the various team members and volunteers who offer their time and talents.

LIBERTY BELL AWARD



Allison Hall, Tulsa

The Liberty Bell Award is given to non-lawyers or lay organizations for promoting or publicizing matters regarding the legal system. Allison Hall, a court reporter in Tulsa County, identified an emerging shortage of court reporters in Oklahoma and across the United States and devised a plan to address the problem. She is being honored for proactively taking steps to address the shortage before it reached crisis proportions.

Beginning in January 2018, Ms. Hall worked tirelessly to create eight court reporting programs across the country (two of which are in Oklahoma) in order to develop a well-trained court reporting workforce. She teaches at both Oklahoma schools, and she trains the instructors and administers the curriculum at all eight schools.

Court reporters are an integral part of the legal system, using electronic recording devices to capture every single word spoken during trials, depositions and legal proceedings in real time to create an official, verbatim record that can be referenced later. Ms. Hall received an associate's degree in court reporting in 1999. She is

registered as a diplomat, merit, professional, realtime and short-hand reporter.

In addition to teaching and training, Ms. Hall serves as a mentor and advisor to any court-reporting student who asks for her assistance, even if they have not attended any of the programs she established. Tulsa County and the entire state of Oklahoma have directly benefitted from her leadership, quick thinking and dedication.

JOE STAMPER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



***Jimmy K. Goodman,
Oklahoma City***

The Joe Stamper Distinguished Service Award honors individuals who volunteer innumerable hours to further the goals of the OBA. Jimmy Goodman is a trial lawyer in the Oklahoma City office of Crowe & Dunlevy PC. He has worked there since 1973 – the majority of his 51-year career. He previously served as president of the Oklahoma County Bar Association and the Oklahoma Bar Foundation and was a long-standing member of the Oklahoma Supreme Court’s Uniform Civil Jury Instructions Committee.

In addition to his legal practice, Mr. Goodman has dedicated himself to giving back to the legal profession. He has been an active member of the ABA, holding numerous leadership positions, including representing Oklahoma and the Oklahoma County Bar Association in the ABA House of Delegates. He was most recently elected president of the American Bar Foundation, effective Sep. 1, 2022. He has been a tireless fundraiser for and supporter of Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma and has dedicated countless hours to mentoring and encouraging younger attorneys. He is also proud to have served on the team that drafted the mission statement for the Oklahoma City National Memorial.

Over the years, Mr. Goodman has received numerous professional honors and awards in recognition of his high ethical standards, pro bono service and efforts to increase diversity in the Oklahoma legal profession. He has always been among the first to offer words of support and encouragement to others during personal and professional struggles, and he has never been too busy to provide honest feedback and recommendations on the professional goals of fellow lawyers.

ALMA WILSON AWARD



***Sarah Brune Edwards,
Oklahoma City***

The Alma Wilson Award is given to individuals who have made a significant contribution to improving the lives of Oklahoma children. Sarah Brune Edwards, an attorney at Hartzog Conger Carson, has dedicated her entire career to improving the lives of Oklahoma’s children and families.

Ms. Edwards began her legal career as an attorney for the Oklahoma House of Representatives in 2005. During the next four years, she worked primarily with human services committees, which opened her eyes to the need for improvements in Oklahoma Child Welfare Services. In 2009, she was named deputy general counsel for Gov. Henry, primarily assisting with pardons, paroles, commutations and executions. In the course of her work, she soon realized that many people moved directly from Child Welfare Services into the prison system.

Chief Juvenile Court Judge Lisa Davis asked Ms. Edwards to help devise improvements in the Juvenile Court and Child Welfare Services in 2015. The result was Citizens for Children and