

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Washington Courts Innovating Justice Award</b></p>
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## **Nomination and Selection Guidelines**

The **Innovating Justice Award** recognizes an individual or group for providing exceptional leadership in helping courts deliver innovative and responsive justice using a race equity lens.

### **Criteria for nomination**

- 1) Nominations can be individuals or groups who have provided leadership in the court system.
- 2) Nominees should have demonstrated leadership in delivering justice on a local or statewide basis by going above and beyond in developing and/or implementing court system.

### **Selection of nominees**

The selection committee is assigned by the Board for Judicial Administration (BJA). The selection committee may use various criteria to determine the award recipients, including that the nominee made significant contributions to the court community in the following areas:

- Promoted race equity and access to justice;
- Provided exceptional leadership and went above and beyond what is expected;
- Applied innovative and community-driven court system responses;
- Extent to which the court system responses significantly impacted and resolved critical court system needs.

The selection committee will accept nominations on an ongoing basis. The committee expects to recognize individuals or groups at the October BJA meeting each year. Nominations should be received by September 1, 2023.

- [Innovating Justice Award Nomination Form](#)

### **Recipients:**

#### **November 2020**

- Chief Justice Debra Stephens, Supreme Court
- Tukwila Municipal Court
- Judge Jacqueline Shea-Brown, Benton-Franklin County Superior Court
- Judge John Lorhrmann, Walla Walla County Superior Court

## [Public Service Announcement](#)

### **February 2021**

- Vanessa Enquist, Court administrator, Sunnyside and Toppenish Municipal Courts
- Judge Willie Gregory, Seattle Municipal Court

## [Public Service Announcement](#)

### **May 2021**

- Justice Barbara Madsen and Cindy Bricker, AOC, and commission members and other involved this project around emerging issues around child welfare
- Kristy Hendrickson, Wahkiakum District Court

## [Public Service Announcement](#)

### **August 2021**

- Jamie Kambich, AOC
- Judge Judith Ramseyer, King County Superior Court

## [Public Service Announcement](#)

### **October 2022**

- Legal Financial Obligation counties, including Representative Tarra Simmons with Civil Survival in collaboration with all the county courts; Judge Kevin Hull with Kitsap County Superior; Judge Michael Schwartz with Pierce County Superior Court and Judge Carol Murphy, Thurston County Superior Court
- Commissioner Clint Johnson, Pierce County Superior Court
- Commissioner Brandon Mack and the Clallam County Dependency Court Improvement Team
- Clark County Volunteer Lawyers Program and Executive Director Elizabeth Fitzgerald

## [Public Service Announcement](#)

### **October 2023**

- Seattle Municipal Court Probation Department
- Judge Michael Diaz, Court of Appeals Division I, Deputy Clerk Sarah Pendleton, Supreme Court, and Clerk Erin Lennon, Supreme Court

## [Public Service Announcement](#)