

Palm Beach County Bar Association



Honorable Meenu Sasser Mentorship Award

Within the context of growth and professionalism, the importance of mentoring lawyers has been recognized by local bar associations and state bar organizations all over the country, including both the Florida Bar¹ and the American Bar Association.³² In fact, the Florida Bar Standing Committee on Professionalism joined with The Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism to create a "Mentoring Toolbox" to assist local bar associations and committees launch mentoring programs and promote mentoring on a local level. Discussions by bar leaders leading up to this work identified that mentoring is key to the future of the practice of law and professionalism and civility.

Recognizing the importance and impact of mentoring, the Professionalism Committee of the Palm Beach County Bar Association created the "Bar Buddies" Program in 2019.⁴³ The program *is* designed to help attorneys who practice in the Palm Beaches connect and serve as a sounding board for each other. The program provides an opportunity for advice, ideas, suggestions, or general information from fellow attorneys with an emphasis on practicing with professionalism.

To further promote mentoring and to recognize those who exemplify professionalism through mentoring, the Palm Beach County Bar Association has created the Honorable Meenu Sasser Mentoring Award through the support of the Young Lawyers Section, to honor its member and esteemed jurist, who was well-known for mentoring lawyers and judicial colleagues.

This award is given each year posthumously honoring Judge Sasser during the luncheon of the Bench Bar Conference, currently scheduled in April, 2021.

Eligible Recipients: Individual members of the Palm Beach County Bar Association.

Selection Criteria: The Honorable Meenu Sasser Mentoring Award recognizes an attorney or Judge who has demonstrated or promoted mentoring in Palm Beach County. Nominations are submitted by members of the Palm Beach County Bar and/or mentees, whether formal or not, and if selected will be presented at each year's bench bar by a representative of the Young Lawyers Section, the nominator, and/or Chief Judge.

Deadline for submission: January 14, 2021

¹ <https://www.floridabar.org/prof/pmentor/>

² https://www.americanbar.org/groups/diversity/disabilityrights/resources/mentor_program_mentee_information/

³ <https://www.palmbeachbar.org/bar-buddies-mentoring-program/>

⁴ <https://www.floridabar.org/prof/presources/presources002/>

THE HORORABLE MEENU SASSER MENTORING AWARD

“Mentoring matters and YOU can make the difference”

Please use this form to nominate an attorney or judge who has served as an exemplary mentor in the practice of law. The individual must be a member of the Palm Beach County Bar Association.

Name of Nominee: _____ Name of Nominator: _____

Employer of Nominee: _____

How long have you known the Nominee and in what capacity: _____

Your knowledge as to the Nominee’s number of years in the Palm Beach County legal community:

Your Knowledge of Nominee’s involvement in Palm Beach County Bar Association, The Florida Bar and other professional or community organizations: _____

Please explain whether the mentoring was one instance, episodic (series of meetings), reverse (mentee guiding mentor), electronic (guidance and wisdom via email or technology), group (mentor leading a group), or traditional (two paired for mentor/mentee exchange) and approximate dates or time frame of mentoring.

Please include any applicable references to mentoring or teaching in the context of The Florida Bar's *Professionalism Expectations* or the Guidelines for Professional Conduct.⁵⁴ Please be sure to give as much factual information regarding these specific instances of mentoring for the selection committee to consider.

Briefly discuss in the space provided why you believe the Nominee has exhibited exemplary mentoring in the course of his or her practice of law or service on the bench. Please reference the length of mentoring, the frequency of mentoring, or any relevant information to all the committee background of the Nominee's contribution to improving the legal profession in the context of mentoring.

*Nomination submissions are limited to five (5) pages total, including this cover sheet and all continuations and attachments. Submissions more than five pages in length will not be considered by the Committee. **DEADLINE TO RETURN NOMINATION: January 14, 2021.** Please return to Carla Tharp Brown, Palm Beach County Bar Association, PO Box 17726, West Palm Beach, FL 33416 or via email: ctbrown@palmbeachbar.org **Past Winners include: *The Honorable Meenu Sasser, Posthumously.***