

Foundation

Michigan State Bar Foundation

News



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Foundation Presents Founders Award to Wallace D. Riley Welcomes New Fellows

On September 22, 2005, Justice Stephen J. Markman presented the Founders Award to Wallace D. Riley on behalf of the Michigan State Bar Foundation at the Annual Meeting of the State Bar of Michigan. Justice Markman, himself a Fellow of the Foundation cited Mr. Riley's long record of distinguished service to the bar and the public and noted that the Foundation could not have made a better choice than Wallace D. Riley for the Founders Award.

The Award is named for the vision of the 32 lawyers and judges who founded the Fellows of the Michigan State Bar Foundation in 1984 to support the Foundation's charitable purposes and recognize lawyers who meet the Fellows membership criteria of professional excellence and contributions to the community. The Fellows program now includes more than 1,200 attorneys and judges and has contributed over \$1.1 million to support the Foundation. Much of the Foundation's program of public service would not be possible without the Fellows leadership and financial support.

Accepting the award, Mr. Riley recalled not only being one of the Fellows founders, but also working with the lawyer leaders who established the Foundation itself more than 50 years ago. He noted some of their names to highlight the caliber of leadership the Foundation has had and he urged lawyers and judges to accept Fellows membership if invited and to support the Foundation's work with donations to the Access to Justice Fund.

Foundation President Margaret J. Nichols said "Mr. Riley exemplifies the high caliber of the Fellows, and his extraordinary service to the Foundation has been unparalleled." Mr. Riley was a Foundation Trustee from 1960-1993 and served as President from 1974-1982. Among many bar-related and other leadership roles, Mr. Riley served as president of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Michigan, the Michigan Historical Center Foundation and the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society.

Also on September 22, the Foundation's Fellows elected the following officers for 2005-2006: Chairperson - **Honorable Julian A. Cook, Jr.**, Senior Judge, United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan, Detroit; Vice-Chairperson - **Honorable Hilda R. Gage**, Michigan Court of Appeals, Southfield, and Secretary - **Charles R. Rutherford**, Dykema Gossett, PLLC, Bloomfield Hills.

In addition, the Foundation welcomed the following lawyers and judges elected as new 2005 Fellows of the Michigan State Bar Foundation: **Lawrence Acker**, Bloomfield Hills; **Alan Ackerman**, Troy; **Mark Armitage**, Detroit; **Hon. Richard Ball**, East Lansing; **Thomas Behm**, Grand Rapids; **Dennis Benson**, Cadillac; **Kathleen Bogas**, Bloomfield Hills; **Robert Buchanan**, Grand Rapids; **Francine Cullari**, Grand Blanc; **Joseph Cunningham**, Southfield; **David Davis**, Birmingham; **Scott Forbush**, Lansing; **Hon. Deborah Ford**, Detroit; **Michael Gatti**, Ann Arbor; **Hon. L. Suzanne Geddis**, Howell; **Jack Gilbreath Jr.**, Ypsilanti; **Richard Glaser**, Grand Rapids; **Hon. Mark Goldsmith**, Pontiac; **Lisa Halushka**, Rochester; **Troy Haney**, Grand Rapids; **Michael Highfield**, Ann Arbor; **Maurice Jenkins**, Detroit; **Richard Kaufman**, Farmington Hills; **Joni Larson**, Lansing; **David Lucas**, Battle Creek; **Anne Saad McAlpine**, Grosse Pointe Woods; **Bernard Mindell**, Southfield; **Martha Moore**, Rochester; **Mayer Morganroth**, Southfield; **Hon. Janet Neff**, Grand Rapids; **Susan Carino Nystrom**, Indianapolis; **Jules Olsman**, Berkley; **Diana Raimi**, Ann Arbor; **George Roumell, Jr.**, Detroit; **William Schaefer**, Troy; **Hon. Bill Schuette**, Lansing; **Philip Stoffan**, Muskegon; **Daniel Swanson**, Southfield; **Lawrence Swistak**, Farmington Hills; **Ellen Tickner**, Southfield; **Amy Timmer**, Lansing; **Stephen Turner**, Grand Rapids; **Jennifer Van Horn**, Lansing; **Mark Westrate**, Dowagiac; **Brian Whitelaw**, Grand Rapids; **Roger Wotila**, Cadillac.



Justice Stephen J. Markman, left, presents the Michigan State Bar Foundation Founders Award to Wallace D. Riley for "exemplifying the highest traditions of the legal profession and devoted service to community."