December 2015

Re: 2016 ABA E. Smythe Gambrell Awards Competition
For Professionalism Programs

Dear Law School Dean,

Professionalism programming is the critical link that enables law students and lawyers to fully realize their role as professionals and their obligations to clients, the legal profession and the larger community.

Is your law school’s professionalism program setting an example worthy of national emulation? Is it innovative enough to warrant the leading award in the legal professionalism field – the ABA Gambrell Award?

The E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Awards not only are the ultimate source of recognition and reinforcement for professionalism programs that are making a difference for lawyers and the public, each is accompanied by a cash prize of $3,500.

The annual Gambrell competition is open to law schools, bar associations, state court professionalism programs, law firms – in other words, those law institutions that are in the business of advancing the cause of legal professionalism.

On the reverse is a description of the three Gambrell award recipient programs for 2015.

If you believe your professionalism program is so exceptional it warrants national recognition, just go to the competition web home http://ambar.org/gambrellaward and complete and submit the linked fillable application form. (A copy of the form is enclosed for your information.) **Submissions will be accepted from January 1 through March 31, 2016.**

Award recipients will be notified by June 2016, and the awards will be presented at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago on August 5, 2016.

- The ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism
Chicago, Illinois
2016 E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Awards
Nomination Form, Guidelines and Instructions
ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism

E. SMYTHE GAMBRELL PROFESSIONALISM AWARDS

The E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Awards recognize innovative and outstanding professionalism programming in legal education and the legal profession. Applications for the 2016 Gambrell Awards competition will be accepted January 1, 2016 through March 31, 2016, with Award recipients notified in June and Awards, each including a $3,500 prize, presented August 5, 2016 during the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

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25th ANNUAL COMPETITION

The American Bar Association, through the Standing Committee on Professionalism and the Center for Professional Responsibility, is pleased to announce its 25th Annual Award Competition for projects aimed at enhancing professionalism among lawyers.

Up to three awards, each accompanied by a $3,500.00 prize, will be presented. The awards are generously supported by the E. Smythe Gambrell Fund for Professionalism.

ELIGIBILITY

Law schools, state and local bar associations, court professionalism programs, law firms and not-for-profit law-related organizations are eligible for the awards. Programs submitted for consideration must be ongoing and have operated for at least one year prior to the entry deadline. Past Gambrell Award winning projects are ineligible.

Submissions are maintained and will be considered for two years: the award year of submission and the following award year. Award submissions may not be made in consecutive years (e.g., a project nominated but not selected for the Award in 2016 should not submit a new application before 2018).

SUPPORT FOR NOMINATION

All entries must include the following items:

- A completed Award Nomination Form
- Project Description (not to exceed three pages)
  - Please provide a one-page executive summary of your project, and a detailed description of the project, including plans for continuing operation.
SUPPORT FOR NOMINATION (CONTINUED)

Assessment of Project (not to exceed three pages)
- State the specific goals/objectives of the project or program and how it seeks to enhance the professionalism of lawyers and/or law students.
- State how the success of the project is being measured/evaluated.
- State how the goals are being met and how they are improving the professionalism of the lawyers and/or law students.

Project Continuation-To Do Kit: (not to exceed three pages)
- Concisely state how the project can be duplicated and implemented by others.
- Include suggestions or recommendations for improvement or simplification that you would offer to others who might undertake a project similar to yours.

Additional Information
- Provide any additional existing documentation (such as program brochures, news media articles, reports or report summaries, or letters of support) demonstrating the effectiveness of the program. Links to resources are appreciated.

JUDGING CRITERIA:
The purpose of the E. Smythe Gambrell Awards is recognition of bar associations, law schools, court professionalism programs, law firms, not-for-profit law-related organizations, state commissions and other law-related organizations that have established effective, on-going programs to help ensure the maintenance of the highest principles of integrity and dedication to the legal profession and the public.

The entries, will be reviewed under the direction of the ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism. Factors that will be considered in selecting the awardees will be the distinguishing and particularly merituous features of the program, including, but limited to:

- Overall quality of the program
- Ease with which other interested groups throughout the country can replicate the program
- Established history and success of the program
- Likelihood of continuation of the program
- Breadth of the program for all experience levels of law students and/or lawyers
- Proactive nature of the program
- Effectiveness of the program

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:
Please submit by email, a completed Award Nomination Form; Project Description; Assessment of Project; Project Continuation-To Do Kit and additional relevant documents to:

Email: cpr@americanbar.org

Deadline: All award entries MUST be received on or before March 31, 2016.

Award Entries: All award entries, become the property of the American Bar Association and will not be returned. The ABA has the right to distribute or post on its website copies of the applications.

Questions: Paul Haskins  Phone: 312.988.5175  Email: Paul.Haskins@americanbar.org

AWARD PRESENTATION:
The awards will be presented on August 5, 2016 at the American Bar Association’s 2016 Annual Meeting held in San Francisco, CA. Award recipients will be notified in early June 2016.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Received By:  Date:  Selection: