TO: Committee Members
   CPCS Staff
   Bar Advocate Program Administrators
   CAFL Regional Coordinators
   Juvenile Bar Association
   Mental Health Litigation Division Regional Coordinators
   Massachusetts Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
   Massachusetts Bar Association
   Boston Bar Association

FROM: Anthony J. Benedetti, Chief Counsel

DATE: March 6, 2015

RE: NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED FOR DUGGAN, MARSHALL, BLITZMAN, FITZPATRICK, LIACOS, MELLEN, ADDAMS AND GOYETTE AWARDS

Nomination Process

The Committee will present the awards at an Awards Ceremony on May 5, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. at the John Adams Courthouse in Boston.

All nominations should be submitted to Ms. Denise Simonini, Executive Assistant to the Chief Counsel, Committee for Public Counsel Services, 44 Bromfield Street, Boston, MA 02108, by fax to 617-988-8495 or email to dsimonini@publiccounsel.net.

Nominations must be submitted no later than March 20, 2015. All nominations must include a written explanation of why the nominee should be honored.

Awards

In 1988, the Committee for Public Counsel Services established the Edward J. Duggan Award for Outstanding Service. This award is given to both a Public Defender and Private Counsel attorney and is named for Edward J. Duggan.
(1915-2004), who served continuously from 1940 to 1997 as a member of the Voluntary Defenders Committee, the Massachusetts Defenders Committee and the Committee for Public Counsel Services. The award is presented each year to the public defender and private attorney who best represent the zealous advocacy which is the central principle governing the representation of indigents in Massachusetts. Selections are made by the elected officers and senior staff of the Committee for Public Counsel Services.

In 1994, CPCS established The Thurgood Marshall Award. This award is intended to recognize a person who has made significant contributions to the quality of the representation we provide to our clients.

In 1996, CPCS established The Jay D. Blitzman Award for Youth Advocacy. This award is intended to honor a person, who need not be an attorney, who has demonstrated extraordinary dedication to the principle that children accused of crime, or otherwise at risk, are treated fairly and with dignity.

In 1998 CPCS created The Mary C. Fitzpatrick Children and Family Law Award to honor a staff member or a private attorney who is a zealous advocate and extraordinarily committed to the representation of children and parents in care and protection, termination of parental rights, children requiring assistance, and other CPCS cases involving children and families.

In 1998, CPCS also created The Paul J. Liacos Mental Health Advocacy Award to recognize a public defender or private attorney whose legal advocacy on behalf of indigent persons involved in civil and/or criminal mental health proceedings best exemplifies zealous advocacy in furtherance of all clients' legal interests.

This year CPCS has added three awards to recognize critical members of our team: The Maura Mellen Administrative Professional Award, The Jane Addams Award for Outstanding Social Service Accomplishments, and The Armand Goyette Investigator Award.

The Maura Mellen Administrative Professional Award honors an administrative staff member who has made an outstanding contribution to the delivery of zealous and effective advocacy for CPCS clients. The award recognizes that administrative staff perform many critical roles in the provision of zealous representation to CPCS clients.

The Jane Addams Award is presented annually to a staff social worker or social service advocate who exemplifies a commitment to clients through his or her advocacy, support,
and dedication. The award recognizes the profound impact of social workers and social service advocates serving as members of a legal team. It is named for Jane Addams, a pioneer in establishing the field of social work and the first American woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace prize.

The Armand Goyette Investigator Award is presented annually to a staff investigator for outstanding investigative work. The award is named for Armand Goyette, the first investigator at the Massachusetts Defenders Committee. Mr. Goyette, recognized as the consummate criminal defense investigator, provided outstanding service for over 25 years.