

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN COURT JUDGES ASSOCIATION

2021 AWARDS SOLICITATION

The National American Indian Court Judges Association (NAICJA) Board of Directors is soliciting nominations for four (4) NAICJA awards: the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Court Support Excellence Award the Judicial Excellence Award, and the Outstanding Service Award. The award criteria are detailed below.

Established in 1969, NAICJA is non-profit 501(c)(3) membership organization of present and former tribal court judges, court personnel and other tribal justice system supporters from approximately 300 tribal courts throughout the United States. NAICJA provides support, continuing education and technical assistance to tribal justice systems and seeks to further public knowledge and understanding of tribal courts.

Please use the 2021 NAICJA Award Nomination form at: <https://forms.gle/rFKh3vPH6BSHBaKq8>

Submission Deadline: Please submit nominations on or before Friday, September 3, 2021. The awards will be announced at this year's National Tribal Judicial and Court Personnel Virtual Conference on October 19-21, 2021.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The NAICJA Lifetime Achievement Award is awarded to honor a tribal court judge, peacemaker or other tribal system adjudicator of disputes who has worked in the tribal justice field for at least twenty (20) years as a judge, peacemaker or other adjudicator of disputes and who demonstrates the following:

- Is in good standing and held in high esteem in their profession.
- Demonstrates outstanding qualities of judicial excellence, including integrity, fairness, knowledge of tribal law, traditions and customs, creativity, sound judgment, intellectual courage and decisiveness.
- Has freely shared their knowledge and experience to support tribal justice systems and/or to educate the public about tribal justice systems.
- Has made a significant contribution to support and advance tribal jurisprudence through adjudications, peacemaking, writing, teaching or advocacy on behalf of tribal justice systems.

COURT SUPPORT EXCELLENCE AWARD

The NAICJA Court Support Excellence Award is awarded to honor a person serving a tribal justice system in a non-judicial clerical or administrative role who demonstrates the following:

- Three (3) or more years of experience serving in a tribal justice system.
- Exemplary performance which consistently displays professionalism and the pursuit of excellence.
- Exhibits daily commitment to compassionate public service.
- Shows leadership by taking innovative steps to improve the administration of justice.
- Brings honor or public awareness to the tribal justice system they serve.
- Maintains the confidence and respect of the judiciary, bar, litigants, court personnel and community members.

JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

The NAICJA Judicial Excellence Award is awarded to honor a tribal court judge, peacemaker or other tribal system adjudicator of disputes who demonstrates the following qualities:

- Five (5) years of experience serving in a tribal justice system.
- Efficiently, expeditiously and objectively handles cases and dockets.
- Exhibits fidelity to tribal law, values, traditions and customs.
- Takes innovative steps to address a variety of issues affecting the community.
- Explains the law in terms understood by everyone in the courtroom.
- Exemplifies the highest standards of judicial ethics and excellence throughout their career.
- Maintains the confidence and respect of the judiciary, bar, litigants, court personnel and community members.
- Must be an “Active Member” of NAICJA as defined by NAICJA Bylaws, Article III, Section 1(a).

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

The NAICJA Outstanding Service Award is awarded to honor a NAICJA Active, Associate or Supporting Member who has accomplished the following:

- Contributed to the sustainability and enhancement of NAICJA.
- Recruited new NAICJA members.
- Developed a positive rapport between NAICJA, other judicial or American Indian/Alaska Native organizations, or state and federal entities.
- Developed significant outside relationships beneficial to NAICJA.
- Promoted NAICJA’s mission and goals.
- Must be a NAICJA member as defined by NAICJA Bylaws, Article III, Section 1(a).

If you have any questions, please contact conference award co-chairs:

Judge Kevin Briscoe <KBriscoe@choctaw.org> and Judge Carrie Garrow <carrie.garrow@srmt-nsn.gov>



NAICJA 52nd Annual National Tribal Judicial and Court Personnel Virtual Conference
Conference Updates at www.naicja.org