

The Matthew J. Whitehead, II Award

Application Process

Award Background: This award honors the memory of Matthew J. Whitehead II, former ACC Board member from 1992 through 2002, who passed away in April 2002. Through ACC this award celebrates the life and legacy of a visionary CLO who made diversity a truly core value of ACC in our membership, throughout our activities, and in our leadership.

ACC's Matthew J. Whitehead Award is offered to recognize outstanding achievement by a corporate counsel, a group of corporate counsel, a diversity project, or a corporation, in creating an initiative or providing leadership, the ends of which result in increasing awareness of and commitment to corporate legal diversity, and/or the improvement of employment, retention, advancement, and career path opportunities for attorneys of diverse constituencies.

Criteria for Award Consideration: Candidates should ideally: (1) be recommended by an ACC member or ACC member department or supporter (self-nomination is welcome, too); (2) complete a written summary of their activities; (3) be able to evidence their diversity initiatives or commitment through additional references; and (4) include as many of the following additional criteria as possible:

- A. Evidence of involvement in the activities to be recognized for at least three years.
- B. A substantial and quantifiable time commitment to this activity.
- C. The visible support by the corporation/entity of the candidate's efforts; evidence that the work was done under "corporate auspices," perhaps involving corporate non-legal staff and/or the use of corporate resources.
- D. That the efforts of the candidate are unique or creative in meeting a need that would otherwise not be addressed.

The recipient of the award is announced in October of each year at the ACC Annual Meeting. A top ACC volunteer or staff leader will travel to present the award to the recipient during an event of the recipient's choice (for e.g., at a corporate meeting or other event of particular import to the award winner).

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Written Summary of Nominee's Initiatives
Criteria for Award Consideration Section (2)