**20th Annual Corporate Counsel Awards:**

**Recognizing EXCELLENCE, Inspiration, Impact, and Innovation**

**2024 Call for Nominations**

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2024 3:00 PM ET**

For the past 19 years, ACC NCR has recognized excellence in the local in-house community and honored the work of the region’s in-house practitioners and legal departments by presenting one or more awards to chief legal officers, in-house counsel, paraprofessionals, and legal departments, as well as special awards to recognize in-house innovation, pro bono service, community service, chapter service, and remarkable careers.

**This year, as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Corporate Counsel Awards, we are excited to announce a refresh! Our goals are:**

* **to better celebrate the breadth and depth of excellence in our in-house community,**
* **to recognize that all noteworthy achievements do not fit into discrete categories, and**
* **to respond to your feedback.**

**To do so, we are expanding the categories, simplifying the nomination process, and are revamping the awards ceremony.**

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| **Before** | **For 2024** |
| Competitive awards, with finalists announced in advance and winners announced at the Corporate Counsel Reception. | There are only winners! All selected award recipients will be announced in advance and recognized at the Reception - **everyone leaves happy!** |
| Robust application process. Nominators submit form and letter detailing three examples of outstanding work, etc. | Simple nomination form – **a succinct one to three paragraphs will do**! |
| Defined, Competitive Categories:   * Outstanding CLO * Outstanding In-House Counsel * Outstanding Paraprofessional * Outstanding Law Department * Outstanding Pro Bono * Outstanding Community Service   as well as Non-Competitive Categories:   * Corporate Counsel Career Achievement * Chapter Service * In-House Innovator | Limited, Defined, Non-Competitive Categories (Career Achievement, Chapter Service, Pro Bono Service, and In-House Innovator), **plus** **Flexible Categories** as needed to capture stories of Inspiration, Impact, and Innovation.  **Suggest a Category** **or** **Ask for Help** – just tell us about the excellence! We can find the award name that fits the achievement. For instance, the judges could create an award like:   * 1. “New Horizons” – for taking on new responsibilities   2. “Into the Breach” – for leading significant change   3. “Business Acumen” – for achievement in partnering with the business   4. “Jumping Swim Lanes” – for remarkable versatility   5. The “I Never Studied This in Law School!!” Award   6. The “They Never Told Us This Could Happen” Award |

**AWARD CATEGORIES:**

We invite you (members, sponsors, friends) to nominate an outstanding person, team, or department, and suggest a category – whether it is one of our previous categories or something brand new (see page one for examples) – or tell us about their notable work (for their employer, through pro bono or community service, and/or in service to the chapter) and let us worry about the award name. The judges will select both the winners and the name of the award that they receive.

**Eligibility:**

* Criteria: We are looking for stories of excellence, inspiration, impact, and innovation.
* Location: Nominees do not have to be members of ACC NCR, but they must be eligible for membership, and they must be located in our service area (Washington, D.C., Virginia, or Maryland). For legal departments, that means they must be headquartered in our service area.
* Period under Consideration**:** Except for the Career Achievement and Chapter Service Awards, the period under consideration for nominations is January 2023 through December 2023.
* Diversity and Inclusion: In an effort to support a diverse and inclusive legal profession, ACC NCR strongly encourages nominations of attorneys and legal departments from varied backgrounds.
* Disqualified: Current members of the ACC NCR Board of Directors and departments led by a current member of the ACC NCR Board of Directors as well as those involved in the awards selection process are not eligible for awards.

**SELECTION & RECOGNITION:**

* As always, a judging panel consisting of members of ACC NCR leadership and leaders in the business and legal community will review nominations and select a slate of recipients.
* Unlike in past years, there will not be multiple finalists and a surprise recipient announcement at the Reception. **Instead, recipients will be announced by June 7 and featured in promotional materials for ACC NCR’s Corporate Counsel Awards Reception on July 10, at Westwood Country Club, Vienna, VA.**
* Plus, your nomination will serve as the basis for the publicity for selected recipients so please draft it with an eye that it will be shared with our community.

**TO NOMINATE:**

Please submit your completed nomination form (following page) by Friday, April 19, 3:00 PM to: ACC NCR Executive Director Shannon Graving at [shannon.graving-ncr@accglobal.com](mailto:shannon.graving-ncr@accglobal.com) and copy ACC NCR Project Assistant Beth McConnell at [beth.mcconnell-ncr@accglobal.com](mailto:beth.mcconnell-ncr@accglobal.com). If you do not receive an email confirmation of receipt within 48 hours of your submission from Ms. McConnell, please contact her at 301-461-9624.

You may also include additional materials in support of your nomination (e.g., press releases, letters of support, and articles). You may submit more than one nomination.  You also can nominate both an individual and the department in which that individual works.  Please submit all nominations separately.  Please make sure to provide full contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.

**NOMINATION FORM**

All questions/fields are required; if the answer is not applicable or none, please note.

**Nominee** (for a departmental nominee, please list the GC/CLO’s name and title in the first two lines, as well as their phone and email address):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title / Position: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**suggested Award** (one of our previous categories or something brand new – see page one for a list of our previous categories and new ideas): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Nominator:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title / Position: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Department Information**:

* Please describe the legal department (size of staff, number of lawyers, structure, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the company for-profit or non-profit? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­\_\_
* Industry: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Reason for Recognition (one to three paragraphs; no more than 500 words):**

* If your nominee(s) is selected, we will use your nomination as the basis for publicity about the award recipient. We encourage you to make it persuasive and engaging!
* Examples:
* Creativity and impact in addressing a situation or problem.
* Efforts this individual, team, or department has undertaken through pro bono legal work or community involvement service.
* The nominee's unique contribution to ACC National Capital Region.
* The ways the nominee is a leader and friend of the in-house bar.
* A remarkable innovation that has contributed to the well-being, efficiency, business success, etc., of the department and/or the organization.
* How the nominee exemplifies excellence in in-house practice and, over the course of their career, has contributed to the well-being, prosperity, and overall business success of their organization(s).