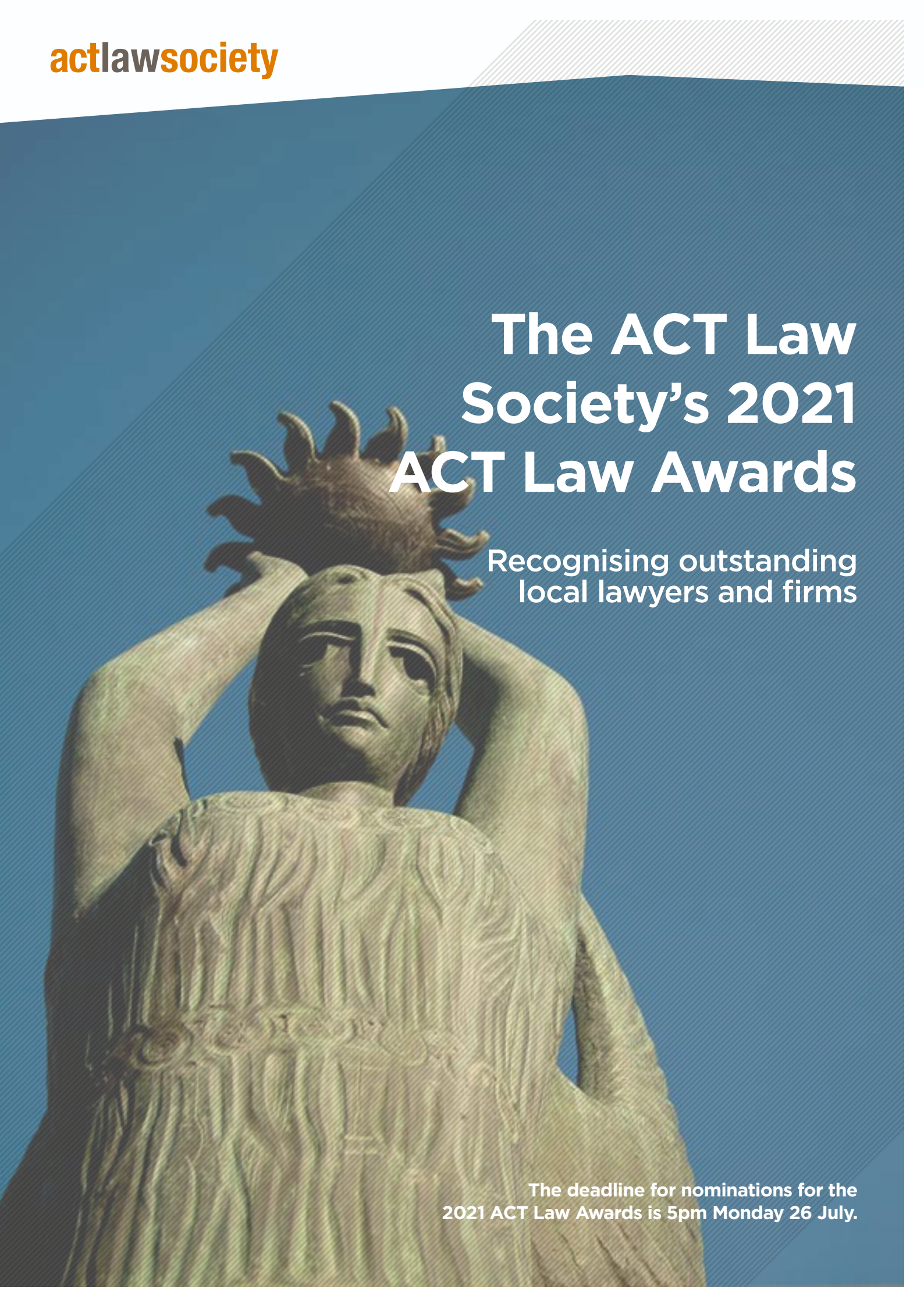


The ACT Law Society's 2021 ACT Law Awards

Recognising outstanding
local lawyers and firms

The deadline for nominations for the
2021 ACT Law Awards is 5pm Monday 26 July.





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2021 ACT Law Awards

Recognising outstanding local lawyers and firms

The ACT Law Society administers five awards, recipients of which are announced at our Annual Dinner & Awards Night in late August each year. The awards are:

- **The President's Medal**, recognising significant personal and professional contributions of a local legal practitioner to the improvement of law and justice in the community.
- **The ACT Firm of the Year**, recognising the efforts of local firms in contributing to access to justice, and to a diverse and healthy legal profession.
- **The Pro Bono Service Award**, recognising the vital community legal work done by individual practitioners.
- **The Government Law Award**, recognising the achievements of practitioners working in government.
- **The Young Lawyer of the Year**, recognising the achievements of early career lawyers.

Each year, the Law Society commissions a local artist to create a new and unique set of awards.

In 2021, Canberra timber artist Clare Solomon has created "Represent / Advance / Defend" — using rescued timber from the old Supreme Court, three different species of reclaimed timber float off an acid etched steel panel on a timber base. The three pillars of timber represent the Law Society's mission statement, which in part is to "Represent, advance, and defend the interests of an independent legal profession in the ACT."

The Awards process

Nominations for the President's Medal must be put forward by a person other than the nominee. For all other awards, individuals (or firms, where relevant) may self-nominate, or be nominated by someone else (subject to the nominees' consent). Each nomination must be accompanied by documentation which:

- explicitly addresses the eligibility criteria
- provides the names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees who may be asked to attest to the achievements on which the nomination is based.

Judging panels may choose to approach additional nominees. They may also choose to seek further information from nominees, their referees, or the ACT Law Society's professional standards staff.

The successful nominee will be determined by a consensus of the judging panel members. The judges may choose not to issue an award if they feel there are no suitable candidates nominated.

The judges' decision is final.

At the discretion of the CEO, the ACT Law Society may choose to acknowledge all award nominees, a short list of finalists, or only the winner, having regard to the number of nominations in each category and any recommendations made by the judging panels.

Nominations for the 2021 ACT Law Awards open on Monday 7 June and close at 5pm on Monday 26 July.



The President's Medal

About this Award

The ACT Law Society's President's Medal is an annual award that recognises significant personal and professional contributions of a local legal practitioner to the improvement of law and justice in the community.

At the discretion of the judging panel, one award may be presented each year.

How to nominate

Nominations for the President's Medal must be put forward by a person other than the nominee (subject to the nominees' consent).

Nominations for the 2021 ACT Law Awards open on Monday 7 June and close at 5pm on Monday 26 July.

Each nomination must be accompanied by documentation which:

- outlines relevant current and previous professional positions held by the nominee
- explicitly addresses the eligibility criteria
- provides the names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees who may be asked to attest to the achievements on which the nomination is based.

Criteria

Nominees will be judged based on their personal and professional contribution demonstrating outstanding achievement in one or more of the following areas:

- improvement in community access to justice
- promotion or defence of the rule of law
- improvement in legal policy or legislation which delivers significant benefits to the ACT community
- improvements in the administration of justice in the ACT
- significant service or support to ACT solicitors, and/or to the ACT Law Society.

Eligibility

To be eligible for nomination, an individual must:

- have been admitted as a lawyer for a minimum of five years
- practise in the ACT, or have practised for a substantial period in the ACT
- be of high standing in the ACT legal profession
- be a current member of the ACT Law Society.

A person is ineligible for nomination if they are a judge of the award, a currently serving Councillor or staff member of the ACT Law Society, or have previously won this award.

Judging

The judges of the award will be:

- the current President of the ACT Law Society
- the Immediate Past President of the ACT Law Society
- the president preceeding the Immediate Past President.

The judges of this award must advise the ACT Law Society of any conflict with a nominee of the award they are judging, prior to the meeting of the judging panel.

Judging panels may choose to approach additional nominees. They may also choose to seek further information from nominees, their referees, or the ACT Law Society's professional standards staff.

The successful nominee will be determined by a consensus of the judging panel members. The judges may choose not to issue an award if they feel there are no suitable candidates nominated.

The judges' decision is final.

Privacy and confidentiality

In signing the nomination form, nominees consent to the ACT Law Society using and publishing any information provided in the nomination. The ACT Law Society may publish details of nominees on our website, in marketing emails and publications, on social media, and in media releases, in order to promote the awards and the achievements of the nominees.

It is the responsibility of nominees and/or other nominating parties to ensure that confidential information is not included in nominations. If confidential information is required in order for the judging panel to properly consider a nomination, it should be provided on a separate page to other nomination information, and clearly marked as confidential.

2021 Nomination Form: President's Medal

Nominations for the 2021 President's Medal must be received at the Law Society by **5pm on Monday 26 July 2021**.

Nominee details

Name of Nominee:	
Nominee's Employer:	
Nominee's telephone:	
Nominee's email address:	
Signature of Nominee:	

Nominator details

Name of Nominator:	
Nominator's telephone:	
Nominator's email address:	

Eligibility

Nominee has been admitted as a lawyer for a minimum of five years

Nominee currently practises in the ACT, or has practised for a substantial period in the ACT

Nominee is a current member of the ACT Law Society

Attachments

Outline of relevant current and previous professional positions held by the nominee

Responses to eligibility criteria

Names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees

Send completed forms to

Simone Carton, Chief Executive Officer, ACT Law Society

- PO Box 1562 Canberra ACT 2601
- or DX 5623 Canberra
- or by email to nicole.karman@actlawsociety.asn.au

Queries may be directed to Nicole Karman, Communications Officer, on (02) 6274 0308.

ACT Firm of the Year

About this Award

The ACT Law Society's ACT Firm of the Year Award is an annual award that recognises the outstanding efforts of local firms in contributing to access to justice, and to a diverse and healthy legal profession.

At the discretion of the judging panel, one award may be presented each year.

How to nominate

Firms may self-nominate for the ACT Firm of the Year, or be nominated by someone else (subject to the nominees' consent).

Nominations for the 2021 ACT Law Awards open on Monday 7 June and close at 5pm on Monday 26 July.

Each nomination must be accompanied by documentation which:

- explicitly addresses the eligibility criteria
- provides the names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees who may be asked to attest to the achievements on which the nomination is based.

Criteria

Nominees will be judged based on achievement in one or more of the following areas:

- commitment to pro bono legal work in the ACT
- encouraging and developing a diverse and inclusive legal profession in the ACT
- supporting and encouraging the development and mentoring of young lawyers in the ACT
- providing wellbeing support to staff in the ACT
- contributing to the reputation of the legal profession in the ACT
- innovative use of technology in legal service delivery in the ACT.

Eligibility

To be eligible for nomination, a firm must consist of:

- two or more practising lawyers who are current members of the ACT Law Society; and
- one or more principals who are current members of the ACT Law Society.

A firm is ineligible for nomination if an employee is a judge of the award.

Judging

The judges of the award will be:

- the President of the ACT Law Society
- a Councillor of the ACT Law Society
- a former president of the ACT Law Society, invited by the President

At the discretion of the judging panel, a Chair (or Chairs) of any ACT Law Society Committee may be invited to be an additional judge on this panel.

The judges of this award must advise the ACT Law Society of any conflict with a nominee of the award they are judging, prior to the meeting of the judging panel.

Judging panels may choose to approach additional nominees. They may also choose to seek further information from nominees, their referees, or the ACT Law Society's professional standards staff.

The successful nominee will be determined by a consensus of the judging panel members. The judges may choose not to issue an award if they feel there are no suitable candidates nominated.

The judges' decision is final.

Privacy and confidentiality

In signing the nomination form, nominees consent to the ACT Law Society using and publishing any information provided in the nomination. The ACT Law Society may publish details of nominees on our website, in marketing emails and publications, on social media, and in media releases, in order to promote the awards and the achievements of the nominees.

It is the responsibility of nominees and/or other nominating parties to ensure that confidential information is not included in nominations. If confidential information is required in order for the judging panel to properly consider a nomination, it should be provided on a separate page to other nomination information, and clearly marked as confidential.

2021 Nomination Form: ACT Firm of the Year

Nominations for the 2021 ACT Firm of the Year must be received at the Law Society by **5pm on Monday 26 July 2021**.

Nominee details

Name of Nominee Firm:	
Principal (contact for this Award):	
Principal's telephone:	
Principal's email address:	
Signature of Principal:	

Nominator details (if different from above)

Name of Nominator:	
Nominator's Employer:	
Nominator's telephone:	
Nominator's email address:	

Eligibility

Firm consists of two or more practising lawyers who are current members of the ACT Law Society

Firm consists of one or more principals who are current members of the ACT Law Society

Attachments

Responses to eligibility criteria

Names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees

Send completed forms to

Simone Carton, Chief Executive Officer, ACT Law Society

- PO Box 1562 Canberra ACT 2601
- or DX 5623 Canberra
- or by email to nicole.karman@actlawsociety.asn.au

Queries may be directed to Nicole Karman, Communications Officer, on (02) 6274 0308.

Pro Bono Service Award

About this Award

The ACT Law Society's Pro Bono Service Award is an annual award that recognises the vital work done by individual practitioners in the ACT who volunteer their time and legal expertise to assist others within the community. This pro bono work is largely unacknowledged, but it provides an invaluable service to many disadvantaged members of our community, ensuring that access to justice is available to all.

At the discretion of the judging panel, one award may be presented each year.

How to nominate

Individuals may self-nominate for the Pro Bono Service Award, or be nominated by someone else (subject to the nominees' consent).

Nominations for the 2021 ACT Law Awards open on Monday 7 June and close at 5pm on Monday 26 July.

Each nomination must be accompanied by documentation which:

- outlines relevant current and previous professional positions held by the nominee
- explicitly addresses the eligibility criteria
- provides the names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees who may be asked to attest to the achievements on which the nomination is based.

Criteria

Nominees will be judged based on their achievement in one or more of the following areas:

- made an exceptional contribution to the ACT community through pro bono legal work
- advocated for or on behalf of socially or economically disadvantaged people in the ACT
- contributed to the protection of the public interest in the ACT
- made advancements to access to justice in the ACT.

Applications should include a summary of the nominee's pro bono activities, provide information about those who benefitted from the work, and indicate the outcomes achieved.

Eligibility

To be eligible for nomination, a person must:

- have been admitted as a lawyer for a minimum of five years
- be a current member of the ACT Law Society.

A person is ineligible for nomination if they are a judge of the award, a currently serving Councillor or staff member of the ACT Law Society, or have previously won this award.

Judging

The judges of the award will be:

- the President of the ACT Law Society
- the ACT Attorney-General
- the CEO of the ACT Law Society

The judges of this award must advise the ACT Law Society of any conflict with a nominee of the award they are judging, prior to the meeting of the judging panel.

Judging panels may choose to approach additional nominees. They may also choose to seek further information from nominees, their referees, or the ACT Law Society's professional standards staff.

The successful nominee will be determined by a consensus of the judging panel members. The judges may choose not to issue an award if they feel there are no suitable candidates nominated.

The judges' decision is final.

Privacy and confidentiality

In signing the nomination form, nominees consent to the ACT Law Society using and publishing any information provided in the nomination. The ACT Law Society may publish details of nominees on our website, in marketing emails and publications, on social media, and in media releases, in order to promote the awards and the achievements of the nominees.

It is the responsibility of nominees and/or other nominating parties to ensure that confidential information is not included in nominations. If confidential information is required in order for the judging panel to properly consider a nomination, it should be provided on a separate page to other nomination information, and clearly marked as confidential.

2021 Nomination Form: Pro Bono Service Award

Nominations for the 2021 Pro Bono Service Award must be received at the Law Society by **5pm on Monday 26 July 2021**.

Nominee details

Name of Nominee:	
Nominee's Employer:	
Nominee's telephone:	
Nominee's email address:	
Signature of Nominee:	

Nominator details (if different from above)

Name of Nominator:	
Nominator's telephone:	
Nominator's email address:	

Eligibility

Nominee has been admitted as a lawyer for a minimum of five years

Nominee is a current member of the ACT Law Society

Attachments

Outline of relevant current and previous professional positions held by the nominee

Responses to eligibility criteria

Names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees

Send completed forms to

Simone Carton, Chief Executive Officer, ACT Law Society

- PO Box 1562 Canberra ACT 2601
- or DX 5623 Canberra
- or by email to nicole.karman@actlawsociety.asn.au

Queries may be directed to Nicole Karman, Communications Officer, on (02) 6274 0308.

Government Law Award

About this Award

The ACT Law Society's Government Law Award is an annual award that recognises the outstanding achievements of practitioners working in government. The Award seeks to raise awareness of the activities of government law practitioners, and encourages government law practitioners to remain active participants in the legal profession in activities beyond their core employment duties.

At the discretion of the judging panel, one award may be presented each year.

How to nominate

Individuals may self-nominate for the Government Law Award, or be nominated by someone else (subject to the nominees' consent).

Nominations for the 2021 ACT Law Awards open on Monday 7 June and close at 5pm on Monday 26 July.

Each nomination must be accompanied by documentation which:

- outlines relevant current and previous professional positions held by the nominee
- explicitly addresses the eligibility criteria
- provides the names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees who may be asked to attest to the achievements on which the nomination is based.

Criteria

Nominees will be judged based on their achievement in one or more of the following areas:

- as a government lawyer, responsibility for significant legal projects, litigation, drafting, or other work deserving of recognition
- providing education and developing awareness of legal issues in a Department or Agency
- providing leadership and innovation resulting in improved performance of a Department or Agency
- contribution to the community beyond their legal position, including pro bono work or legal support to community organisations or not-for-profits, or to the ACT Law Society.

Eligibility

To be eligible for nomination, a person must:

- have been admitted as a lawyer for a minimum of five years
- be a Government Law Practitioner
- be a current member of the ACT Law Society.

"Government Law Practitioner" (for the purpose of this award) means a person working in a legal role who is employed by an ACT or Commonwealth Government Department or Agency.

A person is ineligible for nomination if they are a judge of the award, a currently serving Councillor or staff member of the ACT Law Society, or have previously won this award.

Judging

The judges of the award will be:

- the President of the ACT Law Society
- a Councillor of the ACT Law Society
- the Chair of the Government Law Committee

The judges of this award must advise the ACT Law Society of any conflict with a nominee of the award they are judging, prior to the meeting of the judging panel.

Judging panels may choose to approach additional nominees. They may also choose to seek further information from nominees, their referees, or the ACT Law Society's professional standards staff.

The successful nominee will be determined by a consensus of the judging panel members. The judges may choose not to issue an award if they feel there are no suitable candidates nominated.

The judges' decision is final.

Privacy and confidentiality

In signing the nomination form, nominees consent to the ACT Law Society using and publishing any information provided in the nomination. The ACT Law Society may publish details of nominees on our website, in marketing emails and publications, on social media, and in media releases, in order to promote the awards and the achievements of the nominees.

It is the responsibility of nominees and/or other nominating parties to ensure that confidential information is not included in nominations. If confidential information is required in order for the judging panel to properly consider a nomination, it should be provided on a separate page to other nomination information, and clearly marked as confidential.

2021 Nomination Form: Government Law Award

Nominations for the 2021 Government Law Award must be received at the Law Society by **5pm on Monday 26 July 2021**.

Nominee details

Name of Nominee:	
Nominee's Employer:	
Nominee's telephone:	
Nominee's email address:	
Signature of Nominee:	

Nominator details (if different from above)

Name of Nominator:	
Nominator's telephone:	
Nominator's email address:	

Eligibility

Nominee has been admitted as a lawyer for a minimum of five years

Nominee is a Government Law Practitioner (as defined in the eligibility for this Award)

Nominee is a current member of the ACT Law Society

Attachments

Outline of relevant current and previous professional positions held by the nominee

Responses to eligibility criteria

Names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees

Send completed forms to

Simone Carton, Chief Executive Officer, ACT Law Society

- PO Box 1562 Canberra ACT 2601
- or DX 5623 Canberra
- or by email to nicole.karman@actlawsociety.asn.au

Queries may be directed to Nicole Karman, Communications Officer, on (02) 6274 0308.

Young Lawyer of the Year

About this Award

The ACT Law Society's Young Lawyer of the Year Award is an annual award that recognises the outstanding achievements of young lawyers in the ACT. The Award seeks to encourage young lawyers to be active participants in the legal profession beyond their core employment duties, and to raise awareness of these activities.

At the discretion of the judging panel, one award may be presented each year.

How to nominate

Individuals may self-nominate for the Young Lawyer of the Year, or be nominated by someone else (subject to the nominees' consent).

Nominations for the 2021 ACT Law Awards open on Monday 7 June and close at 5pm on Monday 26 July.

Each nomination must be accompanied by documentation which:

- outlines relevant current and previous professional positions held by the nominee
- explicitly addresses the eligibility criteria
- provides the names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees who may be asked to attest to the achievements on which the nomination is based.

Criteria

Nominees will be judged based on their achievement in one or more of the following areas:

- contribution to the legal profession, and/or to the ACT Law Society
- contribution to the community
- legal professional achievement.

Eligibility

To be eligible for nomination, a person must:

- be a Young Lawyer; and
- be a current member of the ACT Law Society.

“Young Lawyer” (for the purpose of this award) means a person admitted to legal practice in Australia for no more than five years at the nomination deadline.

A person is ineligible for nomination if they are a judge of the award, a currently serving Councillor or staff member of the ACT Law Society, or have previously won this award.

Judging

The judges of the award will be:

- the Patron of the Young Lawyers Committee
- the President of the ACT Law Society
- the CEO of the ACT Law Society
- the Chair of the Young Lawyers Committee

At the discretion of the judging panel, a Councillor of the ACT Law Society may be invited to be an additional judge on this panel.

The judges of this award must advise the ACT Law Society of any conflict with a nominee of the award they are judging, prior to the meeting of the judging panel.

Judging panels may choose to approach additional nominees. They may also choose to seek further information from nominees, their referees, or the ACT Law Society's professional standards staff.

The successful nominee will be determined by a consensus of the judging panel members. The judges may choose not to issue an award if they feel there are no suitable candidates nominated.

The judges' decision is final.

Privacy and confidentiality

In signing the nomination form, nominees consent to the ACT Law Society using and publishing any information provided in the nomination. The ACT Law Society may publish details of nominees on our website, in marketing emails and publications, on social media, and in media releases, in order to promote the awards and the achievements of the nominees.

It is the responsibility of nominees and/or other nominating parties to ensure that confidential information is not included in nominations. If confidential information is required in order for the judging panel to properly consider a nomination, it should be provided on a separate page to other nomination information, and clearly marked as confidential.

2021 Nomination Form: Young Lawyer of the Year

Nominations for the 2021 Young Lawyer of the Year must be received at the Society by **5pm on Monday 26 July 2021**.

Nominee details

Name of Nominee:	
Nominee's Employer:	
Nominee's telephone:	
Nominee's email address:	
Signature of Nominee:	

Nominator details (if different from above)

Name of Nominator:	
Nominator's telephone:	
Nominator's email address:	

Eligibility

- Nominee has been admitted as a lawyer for a minimum of five years
- Nominee is a Young Lawyer (as defined in the eligibility for this Award)
- Nominee is a current member of the ACT Law Society

Attachments

- Outline of relevant current and previous professional positions held by the nominee
- Responses to eligibility criteria
- Names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees

Send completed forms to

Simone Carton, Chief Executive Officer, ACT Law Society

- PO Box 1562 Canberra ACT 2601
- or DX 5623 Canberra
- or by email to nicole.karman@actlawsociety.asn.au

Queries may be directed to Nicole Karman, Communications Officer, on (02) 6274 0308.



actlawsociety

the law society of the australian capital territory
a member of the law council of australia
02 6274 0300 | mail@actlawsociety.asn.au
www.actlawsociety.asn.au