



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RETIRED APPELLATE COURT JUDGE HONORED BY THE CBA

Hon. Anne C. Dranginis, Retired Appellate Court Judge, to Receive John Eldred Shields Distinguished Professional Service Award

New Britain – The Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) is pleased to announce Hon. Anne C. Dranginis, retired appellate court judge, has been named the 2019 recipient of the John Eldred Shields Distinguished Professional Service Award. The award is presented to a CBA member that has performed outstanding service through or on behalf of the CBA for the benefit of the legal community or the community at large.

The award will be presented at the CBA’s annual “Celebrate with the Stars” awards ceremony on April 11 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville.

Judge Dranginis focuses on litigation matters involving matrimonial law, corporate compliance and governance, trial strategy, and arbitration and mediation, with a particular focus on appellate mediation, at Pullman & Comley LLC, and is a member of the firm’s family law practice.

Prior to her retirement as associate judge of the Connecticut Appellate Court in 2006, she had served 21 years on the superior and appellate court bench. From 1990-1994, she was the administrative judge in Litchfield where she heard and decided the declaratory judgement action testing the constitutionality of the assault weapon ban. In 1994, she was appointed chief administrative judge for family matters for the Connecticut Superior Court and led changes in family practice that provided for automatic orders upon the filing of dissolution or custody complaints and allowed the family dockets statewide to adhere to the American Bar Association guidelines. During her tenure on the appellate court, she sat by designation on the Connecticut Superior Court, including the death penalty phase of *State v. Michael Ross*.

“Judge Dranginis’ long-standing commitment to not just the Connecticut legal community, but all of Connecticut, is unmatched,” said Jonathan M. Shapiro, president of the Connecticut Bar Association. “Judge Dranginis’ involvement in the Connecticut Bar Association, the Connecticut Bar Foundation, and various organizations locally and nationally, greatly benefits Connecticut. We are lucky she continues her dedication.”

John Eldred Shields, the namesake of this award, served as CBA president from 1979-1980. During his 44-year career in law, he received national recognition as an innovative lawyer. Upon

his death, he was recognized for his keen perceptions, his forceful presentations, and his indefatigable interests and efforts on behalf of the profession of law.

“Celebrate with the Stars” is dedicated to recognizing Connecticut’s top judges, lawyers, and professionals who make a difference through their work by demonstrating allegiance, dedication, conscientious service, commitment, and mentorship.

About the Connecticut Bar Association

The Connecticut Bar Association, founded in 1875, is the preeminent organization for lawyers and the legal profession in Connecticut. With its 70+ sections and committees, the CBA produces over 300 programs each year, including the Connecticut Legal Conference. The CBA is a nonprofit member service organization dedicated to advancing the legal profession and the principles of law and justice.

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