



The Will County Bar Association Board of Directors is proud to announce the recipients of the Service to the Community Awards. Last year at the inaugural presentation, awards were given to retired State Senator and Judge Edward Petka and local court reporter and business owner George Rydman. This year awards will be presented to retired Judge Jerry Kinney and Dr. Kristine Condon.

Awards are presented in two categories. The Lawyer Award is presented to an Illinois licensed, or retired in good standing, Attorney or Judge who has advanced our profession through education, counseling, advocating and service to the community. The Non-Lawyer Award is presented to a non-lawyer member of the Will County legal community who through community service, hard work and dedication to their profession has advanced the reputation of the legal community as a whole.

Judge Kinney is a lifelong Joliet resident, longtime local attorney and Judge and past President of the Will County Bar Association. He is a past President of the Joliet Montessori School and for many years coached youth baseball. As an attorney Judge Kinney was active in local politics and served as Chairman of the Will County Republican Party. Judge Kinney practiced as a trial attorney for nearly two decades before being appointed Circuit Judge in 1994. He was elected to that position in 1996 and then in 2008 was elected by his fellow Circuit Judges to the position of Chief Judge. He retired from the bench in 2014.

Dr. Condon is currently Director of the Paralegal program at Kankakee Community College, the only American Bar Association approved program in the region. In association with Judges and Attorneys from multiple counties, Dr. Condon developed the Illinois Civics Academy for Teachers (ICAT). This program provides seminars for high school teachers from across the state to help educate students in accordance with Illinois Learning Standards for Social Studies and/or College, Career and Civic Life. Working with counterparts at Joliet Junior College and University of Saint Francis and Lewis University, Dr. Condon recruits students for the Will County Justice Access Corps (WillCo-JAC) which helps self-represented litigants navigate through the Will County Courthouse.

The awards were presented to the recipients at Chicago Street Bar and Grill on October 26, 2017.