Vern Countryman Award

Nominate a 2020 Recipient today!

Each year NCLC presents the Vern Countryman Consumer Law Award to a legal services or other public interest attorney whose special contributions to the practice of consumer law have strengthened and affirmed the rights of low-income Americans.

Since the first award was presented in 1990, the Vern Countryman Award has quickly become the top honor for consumer attorneys with 15 or more years of experience. We are most proud to know these outstanding advocates and applaud their efforts on behalf of low-income consumers. Each year NCLC presents the Vern Countryman Award to an attorney whose career work has significantly contributed to the rights and well-being of low-income consumers.

Winners include some of the most highly regarded consumer advocates in the country:


Will Ogburn and Dale Irwin (2014 Award Winner)

Mark Chavez (2016 Award Winner) and Rich Dubois

Elizabeth Cabrasser (2019 Award Winner) and Mark Chavez

Lorray Brown (2018 Award Winner)

Sarah Mancini and Karen Brown (2018 Award Winner)

David Humphreys and Luke Wallace (2017 Award Winners) with Dick Rubin
Award Winners 2000-2010
O. Randolph Bragg, 2010
Michael D. Donovan, 2009
Bernard E. Brown, 2008
Mallam J. Maynard, 2007
F. Paul Bland, Jr., 2006
Irv Ackelsberg, 2005
Gail Hillebrand, 2004
Dan Hedges, 2003
Joanne Faulkner, 2002
Lynn Drysdale, 2001
Richard Rubin, 2000

Award Winners 1990-1999
Kathleen Keest, 1999
Alan Alop, 1998
David Ramp, 1997
Elizabeth Imholz, 1996
James Sturdevant, 1995
Patricia Sturdevant, 1995
Michael Ferry, 1994
William Brennan, 1993
Carolyn Carter, 1992
Margot Freeman Saunders, 1991
Henry Sommer, 1990