



## **Judge Sharon Armstrong Receives WSBA Outstanding Judge Award**

*Award recognizes judge's 27-year career of service to the legal profession*

SEATTLE, WA [Sept. 27, 2013] — The Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) has presented retired Judge **Sharon Armstrong** with the 2013 Outstanding Judge Award. The award is in recognition of her 27-year judicial career of service to the legal community. WSBA President **Michele Radosevich** presented the award at the WSBA Annual Awards Dinner on Sept. 26, 2013, at the Grand Hyatt Seattle.

“What most struck me about Judge Armstrong was her commitment to being an excellent judge, both in her role as a trial judge and in her role as a chief judge,” said **Barry Mahoney**, president emeritus of Justice Management Institute, in Denver, Colorado. “Judge Armstrong had what I think good leaders in courts have to have — vision, excellent skills as a lawyer and trial judge, the ability to listen and learn, a large store of common sense, very good political skills, patience, willingness to persist, and a genuine liking and respect for people.”

Judge Armstrong served on the King County Superior Court from 1985–2012. She was chief civil judge in 1996, chief asbestos judge from 2002–07, and chief criminal judge from 2009–10. She also served as judge *pro tem* for the Washington Court of Appeals. Judge Armstrong served as co-chair of the Washington Pattern Jury Instruction Committee for 12 years, which drafts, reviews, and updates pattern jury instructions for civil and criminal trials. She also served for 17 years on the King County Superior Court’s Executive Committee, and has been active on many committees of the Superior Court Judges Association.

Judge Armstrong received her undergraduate degree from Stanford University, a master’s degree in education from Catholic University of America, and her law degree from the University of Washington School of Law. From 1974–79, she was a trial attorney for the Federal Trade Commission, handling trade regulation litigation. Prior to joining the bench, Judge Armstrong practiced at Garvey, Schubert & Barer, where her practice emphasized complex civil litigation. She now works with JAMS, the largest private provider of mediation and arbitration services worldwide.

In June 2013, Judge Armstrong received the King County Bar Association’s William L. Dwyer Outstanding Jurist Award, which recognizes a lifetime of achievement as a judge in a court in King County.

### **About the WSBA Outstanding Judge Award**

This award is presented for outstanding service to the bench and for special contribution to the legal profession at any level of the court.

### **About the Washington State Bar Association**

The WSBA is part of the judicial branch and is authorized by the Washington State Supreme Court to license the state’s 35,400 lawyers. The WSBA both regulates lawyers under the authority of the Court and serves its members as a professional association — all without public funding. The WSBA’s mission is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, ensure the integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice.

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