

Lake County Bar Association holds Law Day celebration virtually

- May 4, 2021

The Law Day Committee, chaired by Lori Kilpeck and John Thomas, of the Lake County Bar Association held its annual Law Day celebration virtually this year but hopes to be back in person next year.

Law Day was established by President Eisenhower in 1958 and is celebrated every year on May 1 to mark our nation's commitment to respecting the rule of law. The Law Day theme for 2021 was "Advancing The Rule Of Law-Now" and the Law Day Committee was honored to have Judge Mary Jane Trapp from the 11th District Court of Appeals, retired Judge Joseph Gibson from the Lake County Court of Common Pleas and Judge Paul Malchesky of the Painesville Municipal Court as the keynote speakers.

Lake County Bar President Joshua Strickland presented the 2021 President's Award to James R. Dugan, an attorney who has practiced in Lake County both in private practice, the public defender's office and the prosecutor's office for over 40 years. Dugan personifies all the required qualifications of the President's Award which is presented to an attorney who is deemed by the Lake County Bar Association to provide "Outstanding service to the community and service to the profession," according to a news release from the Lake County Bar Association.

The Law Day Committee also presented Daniel P. Troy with the 2021 Liberty Bell Award which is presented to a non-lawyer, for outstanding service in one of these areas: 1. Promoting a better understanding of our Constitution and Bill of Rights; 2. Encouraging greater respect for law and the courts; 3. Stimulating a deeper sense of individual responsibility so that citizens recognize their duties as well as their rights; 4.

Contributing to the effective functioning of our institutions of government; and 5. Fostering a better understanding and appreciation of the rule of law. Troy has served five (5) terms as a Lake County commissioner and eight (8) terms in the Ohio House of Representatives, the release stated.

Both Dugan and Troy have spent their professional careers as well as substantial time volunteering to make Lake County a better place to live and work and we congratulate them for their service.