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The Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida

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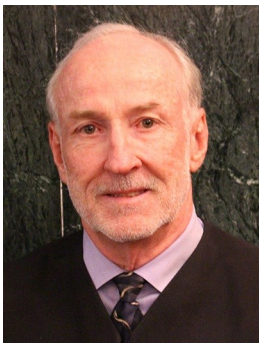
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Judges Honored For Their Expertise, Legal Acumen and Contributions To the Community

CLEARWATER - A slew of judges in the Sixth Judicial Circuit was recognized this spring by various organizations for, among other things, their professionalism and their willingness to stand up to the powers that be, with the most recent accolades given Friday, May 11, 2018.



Judge Jack Helinger

It was then that Pinellas-Pasco Circuit Judge Jack Helinger was given the John U. Bird Judicial Excellence Award, which was created to recognize honor, high ideals, personal character, judicial competence and service.

Also recognized at the Clearwater Bar Association's annual Law Day luncheon at the Safety Harbor Resort & Spa was recently-retired Pinellas-Pasco Circuit Judge John A. Schaefer, who was given the George W. Greer Judicial Independence Award, named after the judge who presided over the Terri Schiavo case.

The award recognizes a jurist who makes a ruling that goes against the interests of the powers that be. In Judge Schaefer's case, he was recognized for excoriating a mortgage

company in open court for what he described as the company's horrendous treatment of a couple in a foreclosure case.

Judge Helinger, who is the administrative judge for the family law division in the circuit, also was given the Judicial Professionalism Award on April 17 by the group, the Women Lawyers of Pasco County, at its annual Judicial Reception event at the Seven Springs Golf and Country Club in New Port Richey.



Judge John Schaefer

Typically, the award is given in recognition of a jurist's continuing efforts to foster a relationship between the bench and the bar, and to encourage those who practice law to maintain high ethical standards and to present themselves as models of civility and patience for others to emulate.



Judge Amy Williams

And earlier this month, on May 4, Pinellas-Pasco Circuit Judge Amy Williams, who presides over civil cases, was recognized by the St. Petersburg Bar Association. Judge Williams was given the bar's Judicial Appreciation Award at the bar's Annual Law Day Luncheon, which this year was held at BridgePoint Church in St. Petersburg.

A local jurist typically wins the award after the bar solicits nominations. Among the factors considered are a nominee's courtroom demeanor, his or her judicial experience, helpfulness to lawyers and litigants, and activities off the bench that promote the administration of justice and civic participation.

Also, on May 11, Pinellas-Pasco Circuit Judge Keith Meyer was given the Canakar Award for Judicial Excellence in Family Law for his exemplary contributions to the family law profession by the Canakar American Inn of Court.



Judge Keith Meyer



And incoming Pinellas-Pasco Circuit Judge Frederick L. Pollack, who's in the family division, was the recipient of the 2018 Ted Millison Professionalism Award for exemplifying the highest standards of ethics and professionalism in the practice of family law by the Stan Givens Family Law Inn of Court in Tampa, where Judge Pollack practiced before he was appointed a judge. He received the award on April 4, at the University Club in Tampa, and a plaque with his name on it was placed on the wall on the 4th floor of the Edgecomb Courthouse in Tampa on Monday, May 14, 2018.

And finally, Pinellas-Pasco Circuit Judge Pamela Campbell, now presiding over probate cases in the downtown St. Petersburg courthouse, received a plaque on April 17, 2018, from the Tampa Bay Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, recognizing her "unwavering commitment to professionalism and civility."

Judge Pamela Campbell

