

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Bar Association Announces 2022 “40 Under 40” Award Recipients

The National Bar Association, (“NBA”) one of the preeminent bar associations in the world is pleased to announce the 2022 recipients of its “40 Under 40 Nation’s Best Advocates” awards. The awards recognize the nation’s top 40 lawyers under the age 40 who exemplify a broad range of high achievement in the legal field, including in advocacy, innovation, vision, leadership and overall legal and community involvement.

“These awards are designed to recognize attorneys who have shown a true commitment to advancing important legal interests as demonstrated by their hard-work, creativity, leadership and the successes they have achieved at this stage in their respective careers,” said President Carlos Moore. “The awardees were selected from a sizable list of nominees solely on merit and the ultimate recipients are those most deserving based on the strength of their legal acumen, ingenuity, and community service. The NBA believes this group will continue in the future to exhibit the same skills, leadership and commitment that led the selection panel to select this group of 40,” Moore said.

“The 40 Under 40 Awards represent perhaps the very best professional award in the country for lawyers under the age of 40. Every year, the program grows both in terms of the quantity and the quality of the entries, and this year is no different, where we have chosen the country’s brightest,” according to Aubrey “Nick” Pittman, Esq., Chair of the 40 Under 40 Awards. “If the awardees’ current achievements are an indication of their future accomplishments, the legal field and our communities are in good hands,” said Pittman.

The recipients will be honored at the National Bar Association’s renowned 40 Under 40 Awards Gala on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, during the NBA’s 97th Annual Convention in Memphis, TN.

The final selections represent a cross-section of legal professionals, including lawyers from big, medium and small firms, solo and industry practitioners, government lawyers, judges, academicians, corporate counsels, elected officials, and various other lawyers, all of whom are using their juris doctor degree in innovative and community impacting ways. During the Black-tie Awards Gala, the individual recipients of the Nation’s Best Advocate of the Year and the Excellence in Leadership, Service, Activism, and Innovation awards will also be announced.

For more information on the Award Recipients, the Awards Gala, or Sponsorship Opportunities, please contact Aubrey “Nick” Pittman at 40Under40@nationalbar.org.

2022 NBA Nation’s Best Advocates: 40 Lawyers Under 40

1. **Aréal Allen-Stewart**, Director, Compliance and Regulatory Counsel, Ross Stores, Inc.

2. **Fallon DePina Banks**, Deputy General Counsel, UnitedHealth Group
3. **Chambord Benton-Hayes**, Principal, Benton Employment Law
4. **Lillian M. Blackshear**, Member, Bass, Berry & Sims PLC
5. **Shahria H. Boston**, Principal, Shahria H. Boston, Attorney at Law
6. **Alana C. Brown**, Founder and Executive Director, The Safe Sisters Circle
7. **Amanda A. Butler-Jones**, Counsel, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
8. **Jehan "J" Carter**, Principal Attorney and Adjunct Professor, Carter Law Group and Pepperdine Law School
9. **Britt-Marie Cole-Johnson**, Partner, Robinson+Cole
10. **Aubrey B. Coleman II**, Program Manager, Microsoft Airband Initiative
11. **Kimberly Bourroughs Debrow**, Partner, Debrow Law
12. **Charles Deskins II**, Associate, Alverson Taylor & Sander
13. **Amanda Cruz Do Couto**, Patent Counsel, Meta
14. **Jared Evans**, Policy Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Inc
15. **Melvin L. Felton**, Partner, Sanders Roberts LLP
16. **Nilaja S. Ford**, Principal, Law Office of Nilaja S. Ford
17. **Sondra D. Grigsby**, Partner, Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP
18. **Derick G. Holt**, Partner, Wiley Rein LLP
19. **Brandi G. Howard**, Partner, McGuireWoods LLP
20. **Martinis M. Jackson**, Managing Member, Jackson Legal Services PLLC
21. **Nicole Lynn**, President of Football Operations, Klutch Sports Group
22. **Ashlee C. McFarlane**, Partner, Gerger Hennessy & McFarlane LLP
23. **Keira T. Mitchell**, Associate, Maron Marvel Bradley Anderson & Tardy LLC
24. **Kelly D. Newsome**, Senior Associate, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
25. **Tiffani Otey**, Associate, Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, LLP

26. **Roy Prather III**, Partner, Beveridge & Diamond P.C.
27. **Reganel J. Reeves**, Partner, Esquire Litigation Group
28. **Joanne Saint Louis**, Director, Diversity Outreach, JAMS
29. **Miska L. Shaw**, Partner, Ahmad Zaffarese LLC
30. **Almuhtada Smith**, Principal, ARS Counsel
31. **Jennifer L. Sneed**, Associate, Evans Petree Bourland Heflin, PC
32. **Patrice A. Sulton**, Executive Director, DC Justice Lab
33. **Daiquiri J. Steele**, Assistant Professor of Law, University of Alabama School of Law
34. **LaQuita R. Stokes**, Partner, Stokes & Glass, PLLC
35. **Quinton Thompson**, Attorney, Morgan & Morgan
36. **Jessica Tehlirian**, Partner, Esquire Litigation Group
37. **Michael B. Victorian**, Associate, Phelps Dunbar LLP
38. **Eric L. White**, Partner, Kirkland & Ellis LLP
39. **Nana Wilberforce**, Partner, WilmerHale
40. **Amar J. Williams**, Associate, Gary, Williams, Parenti, Watson, Gary & Gillespie, PLLC

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ABOUT THE NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION

The National Bar Association was founded in 1925 and is the nation's oldest and largest national network of predominantly African-American attorneys and judges. It represents the interests of more than 65,000 lawyers, judges, law professors and law students. The NBA is organized around 23 substantive law sections, 10 divisions, 12 regions and 84 affiliate chapters throughout the United States and around the world. For more information, visit: www.nationalbar.org