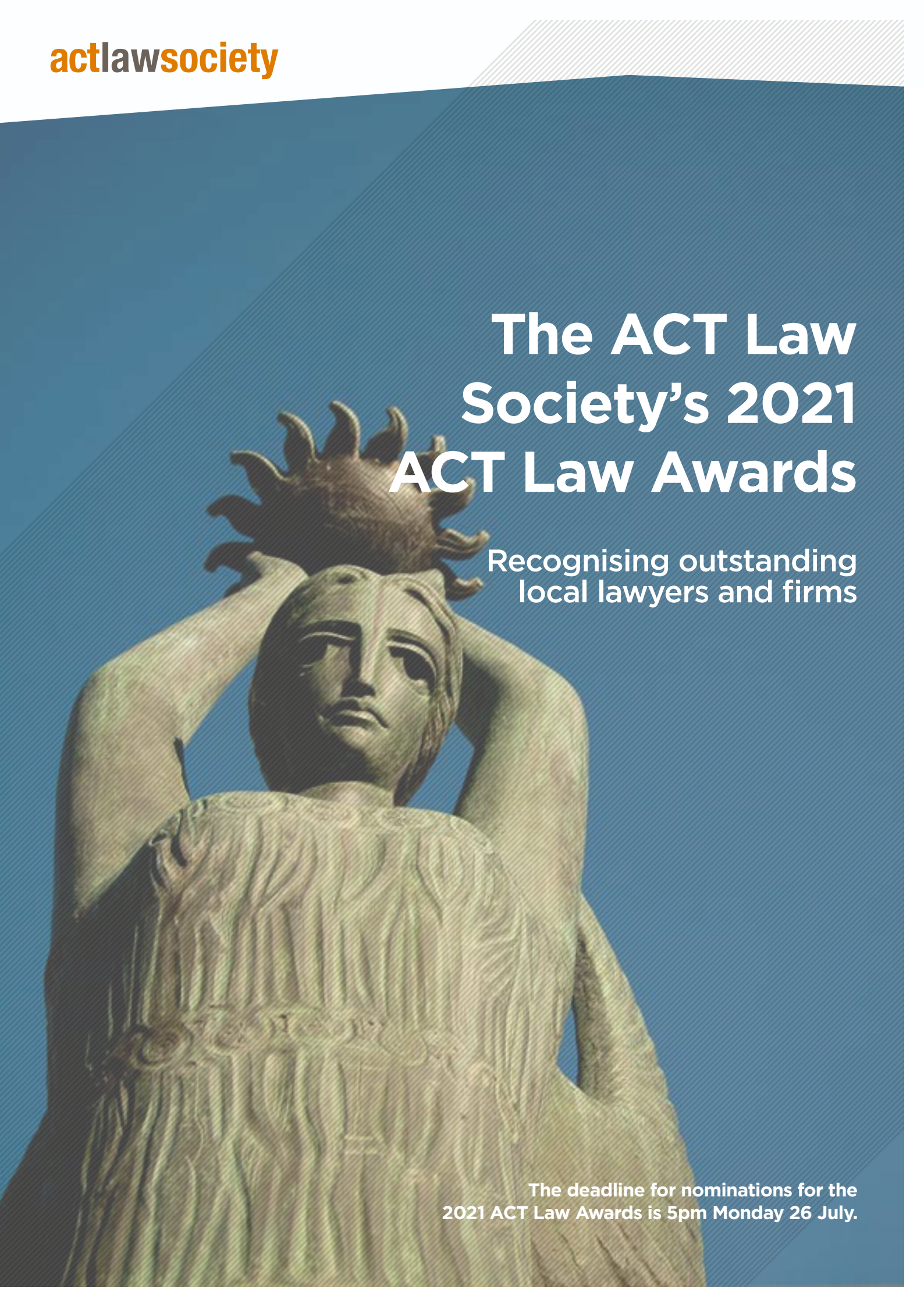


# The ACT Law Society's 2021 ACT Law Awards

Recognising outstanding  
local lawyers and firms

The deadline for nominations for the  
2021 ACT Law Awards is 5pm Monday 26 July.



# 2021 ACT Law Awards

## Recognising outstanding local lawyers and firms

The ACT Law Society administers five awards, recipients of which are announced at our Annual Dinner & Awards Night in late August each year. The awards are:

- **The President's Medal**, recognising significant personal and professional contributions of a local legal practitioner to the improvement of law and justice in the community.
- **The ACT Firm of the Year**, recognising the efforts of local firms in contributing to access to justice, and to a diverse and healthy legal profession.
- **The Pro Bono Service Award**, recognising the vital community legal work done by individual practitioners.
- **The Government Law Award**, recognising the achievements of practitioners working in government.
- **The Young Lawyer of the Year**, recognising the achievements of early career lawyers.

Each year, the Law Society commissions a local artist to create a new and unique set of awards.

In 2021, Canberra timber artist Clare Solomon has created "Represent / Advance / Defend" — using rescued timber from the old Supreme Court, three different species of reclaimed timber float off an acid etched steel panel on a timber base. The three pillars of timber represent the Law Society's mission statement, which in part is to "Represent, advance, and defend the interests of an independent legal profession in the ACT."

## The Awards process

Nominations for the President's Medal must be put forward by a person other than the nominee. For all other awards, individuals (or firms, where relevant) may self-nominate, or be nominated by someone else (subject to the nominees' consent). Each nomination must be accompanied by documentation which:

- explicitly addresses the eligibility criteria
- provides the names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees who may be asked to attest to the achievements on which the nomination is based.

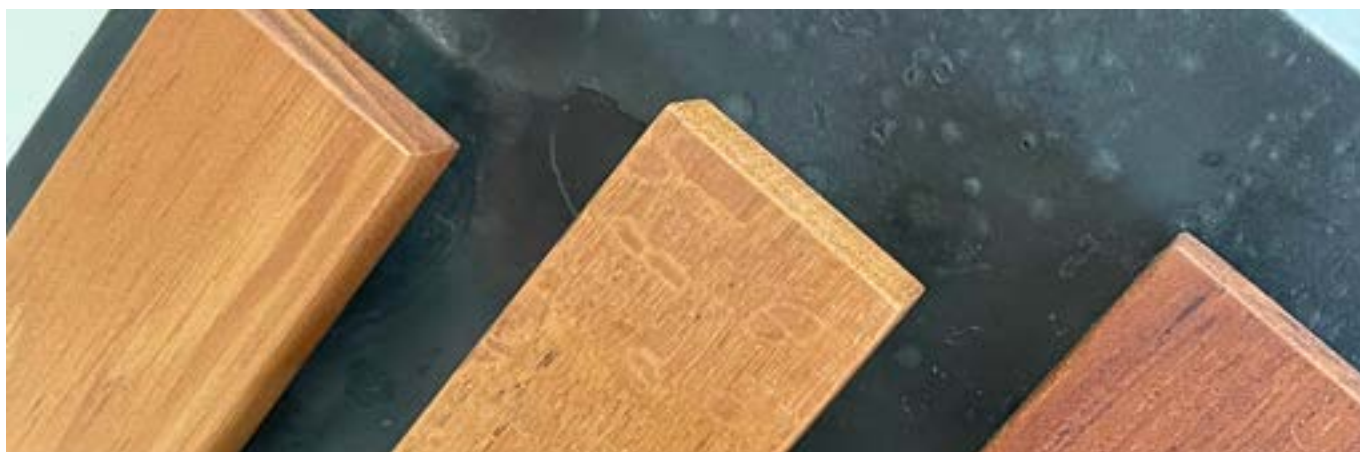
Judging panels may choose to approach additional nominees. They may also choose to seek further information from nominees, their referees, or the ACT Law Society's professional standards staff.

The successful nominee will be determined by a consensus of the judging panel members. The judges may choose not to issue an award if they feel there are no suitable candidates nominated.

The judges' decision is final.

At the discretion of the CEO, the ACT Law Society may choose to acknowledge all award nominees, a short list of finalists, or only the winner, having regard to the number of nominations in each category and any recommendations made by the judging panels.

**Nominations for the 2021 ACT Law Awards open on Monday 7 June and close at 5pm on Monday 26 July.**





# Pro Bono Service Award

## About this Award

The ACT Law Society's Pro Bono Service Award is an annual award that recognises the vital work done by individual practitioners in the ACT who volunteer their time and legal expertise to assist others within the community. This pro bono work is largely unacknowledged, but it provides an invaluable service to many disadvantaged members of our community, ensuring that access to justice is available to all.

At the discretion of the judging panel, one award may be presented each year.

## How to nominate

Individuals may self-nominate for the Pro Bono Service Award, or be nominated by someone else (subject to the nominees' consent).

**Nominations for the 2021 ACT Law Awards open on Monday 7 June and close at 5pm on Monday 26 July.**

Each nomination must be accompanied by documentation which:

- outlines relevant current and previous professional positions held by the nominee
- explicitly addresses the eligibility criteria
- provides the names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees who may be asked to attest to the achievements on which the nomination is based.

## Criteria

Nominees will be judged based on their achievement in one or more of the following areas:

- made an exceptional contribution to the ACT community through pro bono legal work
- advocated for or on behalf of socially or economically disadvantaged people in the ACT
- contributed to the protection of the public interest in the ACT
- made advancements to access to justice in the ACT.

Applications should include a summary of the nominee's pro bono activities, provide information about those who benefitted from the work, and indicate the outcomes achieved.

## Eligibility

To be eligible for nomination, a person must:

- have been admitted as a lawyer for a minimum of five years
- be a current member of the ACT Law Society.

A person is ineligible for nomination if they are a judge of the award, a currently serving Councillor or staff member of the ACT Law Society, or have previously won this award.

## Judging

The judges of the award will be:

- the President of the ACT Law Society
- the ACT Attorney-General
- the CEO of the ACT Law Society

The judges of this award must advise the ACT Law Society of any conflict with a nominee of the award they are judging, prior to the meeting of the judging panel.

Judging panels may choose to approach additional nominees. They may also choose to seek further information from nominees, their referees, or the ACT Law Society's professional standards staff.

The successful nominee will be determined by a consensus of the judging panel members. The judges may choose not to issue an award if they feel there are no suitable candidates nominated.

The judges' decision is final.

## Privacy and confidentiality

In signing the nomination form, nominees consent to the ACT Law Society using and publishing any information provided in the nomination. The ACT Law Society may publish details of nominees on our website, in marketing emails and publications, on social media, and in media releases, in order to promote the awards and the achievements of the nominees.

It is the responsibility of nominees and/or other nominating parties to ensure that confidential information is not included in nominations. If confidential information is required in order for the judging panel to properly consider a nomination, it should be provided on a separate page to other nomination information, and clearly marked as confidential.

# 2021 Nomination Form: Pro Bono Service Award

Nominations for the 2021 Pro Bono Service Award must be received at the Law Society by **5pm on Monday 26 July 2021**.

## Nominee details

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Name of Nominee:         |  |
| Nominee's Employer:      |  |
| Nominee's telephone:     |  |
| Nominee's email address: |  |
| Signature of Nominee:    |  |

## Nominator details (if different from above)

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Name of Nominator:         |  |
| Nominator's telephone:     |  |
| Nominator's email address: |  |

## Eligibility

Nominee has been admitted as a lawyer for a minimum of five years

Nominee is a current member of the ACT Law Society

## Attachments

Outline of relevant current and previous professional positions held by the nominee

Responses to eligibility criteria

Names and contact details (and/or written references) of at least two referees

## Send completed forms to

Simone Carton, Chief Executive Officer, ACT Law Society

- PO Box 1562 Canberra ACT 2601
- or DX 5623 Canberra
- or by email to [nicole.karman@actlawsociety.asn.au](mailto:nicole.karman@actlawsociety.asn.au)

Queries may be directed to Nicole Karman, Communications Officer, on (02) 6274 0308.