

Pro Bono Corner

The Florida Supreme Court and the Florida Bar Recognizes Samuel Pennington with the Pro Bono Service Award



The Florida Supreme Court and the Florida Bar recognized Samuel Pennington with the Pro Bono Service Award for his “efforts above and beyond the call of duty to serve the legal community and Florida as a whole.”¹ The award is given annually to lawyers, groups, and a member of the judiciary in recognition of their commitment to making legal services available to the poor.² In his legal career, Pennington has been committed to helping people through pro bono legal services.

Pennington graduated from the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University in 1979. After working for several years with Christian Prison Ministries, he took the Florida Bar exam in 1988. Since the mid-1990s, Pennington limited his practice to the area of bankruptcy law and kept focus on providing pro bono legal services.³

In 1996, the Greater Orlando Legal Services and the Lake County Bar Association recognized Pennington for his extraordinary pro bono services. And in 2015, the Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida named him the Lake County Pro Bono Attorney of the Year. In July 2015, Pennington joined the pro bono panel of Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida and had a key role in establishing a recurring bankruptcy legal advice clinic in Lake County. He also recruited attorneys to staff the clinic and has mentored new pro bono attorneys, as well as staff attorneys for Community Legal Services

¹ *Pro Bono Service Awards in Florida*, FLA. BAR (Jan. 25, 2017), <http://www.floridabar.org/ProBonoAwards>.

² *Id.*

³ *Samuel Pennington*, FLA. BAR NEWS, Feb. 1, 2017, at 9-10.

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of Mid-Florida. In 2016, Pennington devoted more than 100 hours of pro bono service to Community Legal Services clients while providing full representation to clients in Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 bankruptcies. Pennington is a member of the Order of Barristers, given for excellence in courtroom advocacy, and was a chair of the Orange County Bar Association Bankruptcy Committee in 1998-99 and again in 2015-16.⁴

⁴ *Id.*