

# Foundation

Michigan State Bar Foundation

# News



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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Foundation to Honor Wallace D. Riley With FOUNDERS AWARD**



*Wallace D. Riley*

The Michigan State Bar Foundation has selected Wallace D. Riley as recipient of the Founders Award for 2005. The Foundation will present the Award on September 22, 2005 during the Annual Meeting of the State Bar of Michigan.

The Founders award is named for the vision of those who founded the Fellows of the Michigan State Bar Foundation and is presented to a Michigan lawyer who deeply exemplifies the Foundation Fellows criteria of professional excellence and outstanding contributions to the profession and community. Mr. Riley is only the second person ever to receive this award; the inaugural award was presented in 2004 to Detroit Attorney Dennis W. Archer.

Mr. Riley served as president of the American Bar Association (1983-1984) and was the 38<sup>th</sup> president of the State Bar of Michigan. He also served as president of the Detroit chapter of the Federal Bar Association, president of the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society and Michigan Historical Center Foundation. Riley also served on the Attorney Discipline Board from 1999-2002, and chaired the organization from 2000-2002. Before serving as president, Riley held many State Bar offices, including chairperson, Young Lawyer's Section (1960-1961); member, Board of Commissioners (1965-1973) and secretary (1969-1970), vice-president (1970-1971), and president-elect (1971-1972).

Mr. Riley's long and distinguished record of public service includes dedicated service on the Board of Trustees of the Michigan State Bar Foundation from 1960 to 1993, holding several offices including president (1974-1982). Mr. Riley is one of 32 attorney leaders in 1984 who founded the Foundation Fellows program. Fellows are a distinguished group of attorneys who are selected for their professional ability and community service. The Fellows program now includes over 1,200 attorneys and judges and has contributed over \$1,000,000 to support the Michigan State Bar Foundation's public service work.

Now with Wallace D. Riley, PLLC and Associates in Grosse Point Farms, Mr. Riley co-founded the Detroit law firm of Riley & Roumell, P.C. in 1968 with George T. Roumell, Jr. and his late wife Dorothy Comstock Riley. He holds bachelor's degrees from the University of Chicago and the University of Michigan, an M.B.A. and juris doctor degree from the University of Michigan, and an L.L.M. from George Washington University.

Michigan State Bar Foundation President Margaret J. Nichols said "The Foundation is pleased to present the Founders Award to Wally Riley. He exemplifies the high caliber of the Fellows and their legacy for the Foundation's program of public service, and his unparalleled service to the Foundation has been of tremendous importance to this day."