



October 24, 2014

Lawyers Name Judge Candy Dale for “Justice for All” Award

BOISE – The Idaho State Bar Diversity Section has chosen Chief Magistrate Judge Candy Wagahoff Dale of the U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho for its 2014 “Justice for All” Award. The Diversity Section is a group of Idaho lawyers committed to civil rights for all people, regardless of color, gender, sexual preference or income level. The group selected Judge Dale for her fairness in following the law as a federal judge.

The Diversity Section will present the 2014 “Justice for All” Award in Boise at the October 30 legal education class titled, “50th Anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act: Widening the Circle.” Details for attending the event are at www.isb.idaho.gov.

In May, Judge Dale struck down Idaho’s 2006 Constitutional Amendment prohibiting same-sex marriages. In the ruling, Judge Dale wrote:

Idaho’s Marriage Laws withhold from them a profound and personal choice, one that most can take for granted. By doing so, Idaho’s Marriage Laws deny same-sex couples the economic, practical, emotional, and spiritual benefits of marriage, relegating each couple to a stigmatized, second-class status. Plaintiffs suffer these injuries not because they are unqualified to marry, start a family, or grow old together, but because of who they are and whom they love.

That position was left standing after the U.S. Supreme Court denied petitions for review from similar rulings, and the Ninth Circuit affirmed her decision and lifted the stay on the injunction she issued in May. Same-sex marriages in Idaho began October 15, after the U.S. Supreme Court denied Governor Otter’s motion to stay the injunction.

Judge Dale began her legal career with the law firm Moffatt Thomas. In 1988, she was a founding partner of the firm Hall, Farley, Oberrecht & Blanton. She was later selected for appointment to the U.S. District Court in November of 2007. She has served in this position since March 30, 2008. With this appointment, Dale became the first woman appointed to a federal court in Idaho.

Previous award winners include Ernesto Sanchez, retired director of Idaho Legal Aid; Leslie Goddard, retired counsel and director of the Idaho Human Rights Commission; Nicole LeFavour, Idaho’s first openly gay state legislator and civil rights activist; and Linda Pall, Idaho civil rights lawyer who has been recognized for her advocacy of human rights throughout the northwest as a recipient of the Rosa Parks Award in Latah County, the Sheikh Community Unity Award in Moscow and the Lassman Stand Against Hate Award from Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA.

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