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Subject: New Form Entry: 24 Lincoln Award of Excellence Nomination
Date: Monday, April 1, 2024 11:23:49 PM

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You've just received a new submission to your [24 Lincoln Award of Excellence Nomination](#).

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Submitted Information:

Lincoln Award of Excellence Attorney Nominee's Name

Todd C. Miller

Nominee's phone #

309-826-4074 (cell); 309-827-8551 (office)

Nominee's Law Firm, Company/Organization and Address

Ogar & Miller
108 W. Monroe Street
Bloomington IL 61701

Statement in Support of Nomination

Todd C. Miller has practiced law for over 30 years in Central Illinois, primarily in the area of family law. I worked closely with Todd as his paralegal for twelve years, so I have a unique insight into his character that lends support to my nomination for him to be the 2024 recipient of the Lincoln Award of Excellence. I believe that his dedication and commitment to the legal profession, and to helping people, combined with his character and compassion, sets a high standard that other attorneys should endeavor to reach.

It is for all of the reasons I've provided in this nomination form, and surely more that I've not mentioned, that I believe him to be worthy of being awarded the 2024 Lincoln Award of Excellence.

Individual achievements in the practice of law

I have had a first-hand view of the painstaking level of care he puts into being a Guardian Ad Litem, and he is one of the best GALs in the circuit. Rather than believing anyone at face value, he really digs into the details of what each child, party, and witness has to say, and he has a keen skill of seeing through façades that parties sometimes try to put forth, and he is blessed with the gift of discernment. As a father to two boys, he takes his role as a GAL very seriously. He is amazingly available to talk to the children on whose behalf he is working, and to get to the bottom of bad situations their parents involve them in. His level of detail and care, I think, is why he has been so involved in the GAL training committee, helping to procure great CLE speakers, cooperatively with the rest of the committee, to put together a respected and popular program for GAL recertification.

In addition to being an adjunct professor at Illinois State University, Todd regularly takes in interns for training and mentoring, ensuring that his students and interns are equipped to either begin their career as paralegals after graduation, or transition to law school. I have heard first hand from several students who didn't just like Todd, but they were truly appreciative of his mentorship as well as the fact that he took a personal interest in their future professional success.

With regard to Todd's practice, his character is marked by integrity and discernment, and he has always practiced in a superbly ethical, fair, and thoughtful manner. He has the demeanor and presence of mind to always thoughtfully – and calmly – consider difficult situations before reacting. He has a strong, impeccable, character that means that he will not proceed unfairly or unethically in cases. His empathy and compassion toward others– which I believe is a function of his faith - demands that he assist clients from all walks of life, whether or not he agrees with their choices, and he is committed to serving them as best as he possibly can.

Employment History - written or upload resume

I was not able to secure a CV/Resume from Todd, but have uploaded his most recent bio.

Service to the MCBA-the Community-pro bono service

Many attorneys participate on bar committees, or assist pro bono clients, but I can't imagine any that do so with the level of effort and commitment that Todd has.

For many years, he has provided pro bono services to clients of Prairie State Legal Services, and volunteered weekend time for Prairie State's semi-annual Legal Advice Clinic (now hosted by PILI, I believe). I worked with him at many of these clinics, and was always impressed with not only his knowledge, but his level of care for these people with whom he only had a half our of time to assist. He always tried to speak to them on their level – not at all in a condescending manner, but because he wanted to ensure that they understood their rights, and how they could best proceed in their situations, without using a lot of 'legalese'. Additionally, for about the past 3 years, Todd has overseen the Prairie State Conflict

Referral Program, which assists low-income parties who have a conflict of interest with PSLs find a pro bono attorney.

I think that one of the most important demonstrations of Todd's dedication to our community was seen in his support of and assistance to people who participated in the McLean County Drug Court through his previous leadership in Recovery Starts Today (RST). Drug Court benefits society in so many ways, particularly in steering participants toward recovery from addiction and reducing recidivism. Todd was on the board of RST for several years, and was always committed to its main goal of helping people recover through judicial supervision.

OPTIONAL: Your name and email.

Nichole Byers, nickie.byers@gmail.com, 309-706-0921

Submitted Files

Employment History - Upload Resume or CV

[miller_todd_-_bio_as_of_03-11-24.docx](#)