

## **The Honorable Judge Zottola Mental Health and Justice Award Nomination Form**

In 2022, PCCD created the Honorable John Zottola Mental Health and Justice Award in memory of his dedication and commitment to serving justice-involved special populations. Judge Zottola served as the Chairman of the Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee (MHJAC) for nine years, as well as providing oversight for the Allegheny County Mental Health Court and the Allegheny County Veteran’s Court, which he founded. The award is to be bestowed annually upon someone who, in service to the courts, their community and special criminal justice populations, exhibits the same leadership, dedication and passion as exhibited by Judge Zottola.

The family of Judge Zottola was presented with the inaugural award in 2022. In 2023, the recipient of the award was William F. Ward, Esquire, who succeeded Judge Zottola as Chair of MHJAC. We are currently seeking nominations for recipients of the 2024 award.

Please complete all the requested information on the nomination form. If your nominee is selected, PCCD Staff will reach out to you and the nominee prior to the 2024 CJAB Conference, where award recipients will be announced. The 2024 CJAB Conference will be held on April 9-10, 2024 in State College.

Please direct any questions about this form or the submission process to Jackie Weaknecht, 717-265- 8498 or [jweaknecht@pa.gov](mailto:jweaknecht@pa.gov).

We recommend gathering information for the fields below, using this sample template, prior to filling out the nomination form. Once you begin to answer the questions electronically, you cannot save your work or return to the questions later.

Submissions are due by February 23, 2024.

Nominator’s Information:

Nominator’s Name	
Nominator’s Title	
Nominator’s Department	
Nominator’s Email Address	
Nominator’s Phone Number	

Nominee’s Information:

Nominee’s Name	
Nominee’s Title	

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Nominee's Department	
Nominee's Email Address	
Nominator's Phone Number	

### Nomination Justification:

The following outline is provided to describe key qualities, traits, or characteristics of the nominee that demonstrate their excellence in leadership and passion for working with special populations. Please use the form below to share the nominees outstanding achievements and ongoing commitment for working with special populations.

- 1) Describe how the nominee demonstrates excellence **leadership**. Please provide specific examples (i.e., staff engagement and guidance, committee work, policy development, etc.):

- 2) Describe how the nominee demonstrates a **passion** for working with special populations. Please include specific examples (i.e., community involvement, dedication to service, etc.):

- 3) Describe how the nominee demonstrates an ongoing **commitment** for working with special populations.

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- 4) Provide other examples of why you believe Nominee is worthy of the Judge Zottola award:

- 5) Please list the Nominee's outstanding accomplishments (i.e., achievement awards, participation in boards and committees, letters of appreciation, legislative and policy making efforts, etc.):