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# Professional Excellence 2020: Law Journal Announces Winners

By Juliette Gillespie

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Things this year have been a bit different—or a lot different.

One constant, though, is that we have endeavored to recognize professional excellence in all its forms, and so we congratulate these winners on their fine 2019 work. In a time where public interest and social justice are foremost in our minds, a number of these honorees have pushed hard toward those goals. Others have notched impressive victories for clients in all sorts of disputes, advancing the law in the process. Some are prolific dealmakers or innovative corporate counsel who can't remember the last time they saw the inside of a courtroom. Still others are making a huge impact behind the scenes.

In short, good legal work remains compelling, even in strange times.

We look forward to hearing more about and from these honorees. We'll be publishing profiles and Q&As this summer about them and their accomplishments.

We also look forward to our celebration later this year.

Thank you to all who submitted. There once again were many excellent nominees, and the choices were characteristically difficult. We feel fortunate to cover the legal profession in this state.

— David Gialanella, Managing Editor of Regional Brands, ALM Media

— Juliette Gillespie, Law Editor, New Jersey Law Journal

## Attorney of the Year - Finalists

Frank Corrado - Barry, Corrado, Grassi & Gillin-Schwartz

CJ Griffin - Pashman Stein Walder Hayden

Michelle Movahed - McCarter & English

## Law Firm of the Year - Finalists

Cole Schotz

Lerner David Littenberg Krumholz & Mentlik

McCarter & English

## Lifetime Achievement

Robert S. Peckar - Peckar & Abramson

Karen A. Giannelli - Gibbons

## Unsung Heroes

Chris Caslin - Cole Schotz

Erik Corlett - Pashman Stein Walder Hayden

Lisa Spiegel - New Jersey State Bar Association

Natalie Richer - Lerner David Littenberg Krumholz & Mentlik

Armand Leone - Britcher Leone

Michael Kline - Fox Rothschild

Dennis Toft - Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi

## Innovators

Susan Usatine - Cole Schotz

Knowledge Group at Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy

Robert Fuggi Jr. - Fuggi Law Firm

Thomas Ryan - Laddey Clark & Ryan

## Mentors

Dan Guadalupe - Norris McLaughlin

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