

Victoria F. Gelfman Legal Excellence Award Application



BACKGROUND:

Victoria “Vickie” Gelfman was a Howard County prosecutor from September 2010 - August 2014. A graduate of the University of Virginia and the University of Baltimore School of Law, being a prosecutor was Vickie’s dream job, and she loved it. She was recognized as a rising star within the Maryland legal community by being chosen as a Fellow in the Maryland State Bar Association’s Leadership Academy, and her love of the law was reflected in everything she did. Sadly, Vickie was diagnosed with Leukemia in February 2013, and lost her battle in August 2014 at the age of 31.

PURPOSE:

The Victoria F. Gelfman Legal Excellence Award honors one rising Maryland Assistant State’s Attorney annually to advance prosecutorial excellence in the state of Maryland with a \$5,000 award, helping to alleviate financial hurdles that might be due to educational loans or other obligations. The annual award will be presented at the annual Maryland State’s Attorneys’ convention in Ocean City in June.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. Must be a current Assistant State’s Attorney in any Maryland jurisdiction
2. Prosecutorial tenure of 1 to 5 years
3. Demonstrates a firm commitment to continued service as a prosecutor
4. Demonstrates the highest ethical standards
5. Is involved with Bar Association activities either locally, or state-wide, and/or participates in programs presented by the Maryland State’s Attorney’s Association
6. Demonstrates outstanding leadership and contributions in all of the 4 pillars which Vickie exemplified: (1) Passion for the legal profession, (2) Public service, (3) Dedication to the office of the State’s Attorney, and (4) Commitment to the community.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS:

Nominations are due May 22, 2026. You may nominate yourself, or be nominated by a colleague. You may also nominate someone else. Nomination forms must include:

1. The completed nomination form, and
2. Three (3) letters of recommendation, and
3. A detailed, typed biographical sketch of the nominee, which includes information about education, employment history, awards, and/or any special skills. It should primarily also include information to demonstrate how the nominee meets the selection criteria for the Victoria F. Gelfman Legal Excellence Award as listed above. This sketch should not exceed 2 typed, single-sided pages.

PLEASE NOTE:

Any information or documentation received after May 22, 2026 will not be considered.

Please note that submissions and supporting documents will not be returned.

The winner of the Victoria F. Gelfman Legal Excellence Award agrees to the release of information to the press to announce his or her selection as the award recipient.

THANK YOU for taking the time to submit a nomination.

Vickie was dedicated to the profession of being a prosecutor and of faithfully representing and protecting the interests of the public. She was proud of the work you all do every day.

Victoria F. Gelfman Legal Excellence Award 2026 Nomination Form

Please type or print legibly to ensure the accuracy of your information!
Nominations must be received by May 22, 2026.

Nominee Information

Nominee Name	Home Phone	Work Phone
Street Address	City	State Zip
Email Address		
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Number of years as an Assistant State's Attorney	State's Attorney Office (County)	

Nominator Information

Nomination Submitted by (name/organization)

Contact Person	Daytime Phone Number		
Street Address	City	State	Zip
Email Address			

EMAIL Completed Nominations to:

Kirsten Brown, Executive Director
kbrown@mdsaa.org ~ 301-673-9409

Nominations submitted electronically will receive a receipt within one business day.

Nomination deadline is May 22, 2026