The Jeffery D. Colman Access to Justice Award

The Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Access to Justice is pleased to announce the 2023 recipient of the Jeffrey D. Colman Access to Justice Award. This award is given to a lawyer, paralegal, or court employee who has made a significant or meaningful contribution to improving access to our court system for litigants who are self-represented, limited English proficient, disabled, or otherwise vulnerable.





2023 AWARDEE

Nicole "Nikki" Ticknor

Nicole "Nikki" Ticknor serves as the Deputy Court Administrator and Family Violence Coordinated Council Coordinator at the Winnebago County Courthouse. In this role, she has used education and collaboration to challenge the status guo and inspire all who work with her to make the justice system more accessible. She has created system-wide changes pertaining to how the justice system responds to intimate partner violence. Specifically, she has implemented policies and procedures focused on offender accountability, victim safety, and informed decision-making. Developing countless educational opportunities for judges, clerks, court staff, bailiffs, prosecutors, public defenders, advocates, and victim service providers, Nikki has helped all court stakeholders improve the experience of domestic violence survivors in the courthouse. She has also developed videos for court users that explain the process for applying to obtain a protective order, the plenary trial, and services available in the community.

