



Supreme Court of Illinois

September 30, 2026

ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR COLMAN AND KILBRIDE AWARDS

The Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Access to Justice (ATJ Commission) released a call for nominations today for two awards, the Jeffrey D. Colman Access to Justice Award and The Hon. Thomas L. Kilbride (Ret.) Judicial Access to Justice Award. These awards are designed to recognize and celebrate exceptional contributions to increasing access to the court system by improving the experience of litigants.

[The Jeffrey D. Colman Access to Justice Award](#) is given to a lawyer, paralegal, or courthouse 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.

[The Hon. Thomas L. Kilbride \(Ret.\) Judicial Access to Justice Award](#) is given to a member of the judiciary who has made a significant or meaningful contribution to increasing access to the court system by improving the experience of litigants.

Both calls for nominations can be found under the [Awards section](#). Nominations are due by **November 2, 2026**, and must be submitted via an online form.

[Form for the Colman Award](#)

[Form for the Kilbride Award](#)

Award winners will be announced in December and a reception to celebrate the awardees will be held in the spring.

(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Sarah Song, Deputy Director, Access to Justice Division, AOIC at 217-208-3364 or ssong@illinoiscourts.gov)