



CRITERIA FOR THE 2026 EMPLOYMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD

The criteria considered by the committee for judging the nominees includes:

1. A particular achievement in significantly advancing or protecting employment rights;
2. The public interest significance of the case(s). This includes the employment rights issues that were litigated, the novelty of the issues involved, the importance of the issues, whether the case made “new law,” and whether it affected others similarly situated;
3. The harmfulness of the defendant's conduct. This includes the enormity of the wrong committed by the defendant and the degree of suffering or victimization of the plaintiffs;
4. The vulnerability of the rights or individuals protected;
5. The result that was reached in the case(s); and
6. The extent to which the nominee's work advances the goals of
 - protecting individuals and their civil liberties;
 - holding accountable those who abuse power;
 - increasing access to the courts;
 - combating threats to our Bill of Rights and our justice system; and
 - inspiring lawyers and others to fight to preserve the rights of individuals, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

2026 Employment Excellence Award Presentation. The Employment Excellence Award will be presented at the 2026 AAJ Annual Convention in Chicago, Illinois.



**EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS SECTION NOMINATION FORM FOR THE
2026 EMPLOYMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD**

Nomination deadline for the 2026 Employment Excellence Award: Monday, May 18, 2026.

Completed nomination forms should be emailed to sections@justice.org.

Nominator Information

Name: _____

Title: _____

Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State/Province:** _____ **Zip/Postal code:** _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Nominee Information

Name: _____

Title: _____

Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State/Province:** _____ **Zip/Postal code:** _____

The American Association for Justice

777 6th Street NW, Suite 300 • Washington, DC 20001 • 202-965-3500

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Additional Information

Please provide a brief description (1-2 pages) of why you think the nominee deserves the Award, including the work they have done to advance employment rights. Please include links to news clips, biographies, or other pertinent information about the nominee.

Questions

For more information regarding the Employment Excellence Award, please contact sections@justice.org.