

# Milwaukee Bar Association: Announces 2018 Pro Bono Publico Award winners

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MILWAUKEE, WIS., October 1, 2018 — The MBA is recognizing an attorney and a law student for outstanding pro bono work with its annual Pro Bono Publico awards to show its continued support of pro bono service by Milwaukee area legal practitioners. The award recipients will be honored at the **MBA's 15th Annual State of the Court Luncheon Wednesday, October 3, Noon - 1:30 at the Wisconsin Club.**

The selection committee evaluated nominations employing criteria including: developing innovative ways to deliver volunteer legal services or improve access to justice, participating in activities that provide legal services to the poor or increase access to justice and working on legislation that increases access to justice.

The MBA is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2018 Pro Bono Publico awards:

**Individual attorney, Lauren Blumenthal, The Blumenthal Group, LLC** — Atty. Lauren A. Blumenthal provides pro bono representation to indigent and/or low-income individuals in early intervention and treatment court programs throughout the state. Her specialized training and experience affords her to provide informed, effective and engaged legal counsel. Working tirelessly with clients and their

diverse medical disease and disability needs, including chemical dependency, substance abuse, and addiction, Lauren assists clients in opening the window to a new stable and healthy life.

**Law student, Matthew Sowden, Marquette University Law School** - Over the last two years, Matt Sowden has shown commitment to pro bono work by dedicating at least two hours per week to the Milwaukee Justice Center, accumulating over 120 total hours. Matt also collected data for the Milwaukee Justice Center's divorce project, in an effort to determine how pro se litigants move through the court system and the struggles they face when compared to represented litigants.

### **About the Milwaukee Bar Association**

Established in 1858, the Milwaukee Bar Association is the fifth oldest bar association in the country. The MBA aids in the administration of justice, promotes high standards of learning and professional conduct, provides opportunities for law-related community service and fosters collegiality within the legal community. For more information, visit [www.milwbar.org](http://www.milwbar.org).