



**Call for Nominations**  
OWLS 2025 Roberts & Deiz Award

<b>Email nominations by end of business Thursday, December 5, 2024 to: robertsdeiz@gmail.com</b>	
Name of Nominee:	Company / Firm / Organization:
Nominee Cell #:	
<p>The preferred submission format is a single, bookmarked PDF file.</p> <p>To nominate an individual, please:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Complete and return this form;</li> <li>▪ Submit a cover letter describing how the nominee meets the selection criteria (below);</li> <li>▪ Submit a copy of the nominee’s resume;</li> <li>▪ Submit a minimum of three (3) and maximum of fifteen (15) letters of recommendation by those qualified to speak to the nominee’s character and qualifications for the award. Letters from different perspectives and different points in the nominee’s career are helpful; and</li> <li>▪ Submit a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) references who may speak to the nominee’s character and qualifications for the award. References may be the same individuals who submit a letter of recommendation on behalf of the nominee or may be in addition to those individuals submitting letters of recommendation. <b><u>Please note that anyone who is listed as a reference should anticipate being contacted by the OWLS Roberts &amp; Deiz Award Committee to discuss the nominee’s character, career, and qualifications to receive the award. All discussions will be kept confidential within the OWLS Roberts &amp; Deiz Award Committee.</u></b> Anyone wishing to re-nominate a past nominee will be asked to supplement their nomination packet with a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 references who may speak to the nominee’s character and qualifications for the award.</li> </ul>	
Name of Nominator:	Email / Phone number:

**Justice Betty Roberts** (1923-2011) was a leader in Oregon politics, the first woman appointed to the Oregon appellate bench, and a beloved mentor and advocate for women lawyers.

**Judge Mercedes Deiz** (1917-2005) was a trailblazer in the Oregon Bar as the first black woman to practice law in Oregon and the first woman of color on the Oregon bench. She overcame racial bias throughout her career and created opportunities for those that might otherwise be marginalized by society, to access legal resources and careers.

The OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award honors the legacies of both Justice Roberts and Judge Deiz as promoters of those from outside the dominant culture (e.g. women, global majority, LGBTQ+, and people with disabilities).

**SCREENING AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

Any graduate from an accredited law school, residing or doing business in the state of Oregon,<sup>1</sup> except a member of the OWLS Board of Directors, OWLS Foundation Board of Directors, or the OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award Committee, is eligible to receive the OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award, of which more than one award may be given out in a single calendar year. **NOTE: Nominees do not have to be a member of OWLS, and the OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award Committee will automatically consider all past nominees for a period of up to three (3) years from such person’s**

<sup>1</sup> Nominees do not have to physically reside or work in Oregon to be eligible for the OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award. However, their contributions to promoting individuals from outside the dominant culture must be in Oregon.

**original nomination. Those who submitted packets for any past nominees will be requested to supplement their prior nomination with a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 references who may speak to the nominee's character and qualifications for the award per the new requirement for nominations set forth above.**

Award recipients are selected based upon outstanding personal and professional contributions to promoting those from outside the dominant culture (e.g. women, global majority, LGBTQ+, and people with disabilities) in either the legal profession or the community at-large. While the committee considers leadership activities and service, activities and conduct that evidence a nominee's effort to promote those from outside the dominant culture will be more helpful to the committee and to the OWLS Board of Directors in selecting recipients. Examples of the kinds of work OWLS hopes to recognize through the OWLS Roberts & Deiz Award include: mentoring and providing opportunities for lawyers from outside the dominant culture to thrive, working to bridge the gap between the legal profession and those who exist outside the dominant culture, and working behind the scenes as an unsung hero(ine)/leader to mentor and highlight the struggles of those outside the dominant culture, whether in the legal profession or the community at-large.