



Public Information Office
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Judge J. Clifford Wallace to Receive the 2016 American
Inns of Court A. Sherman Christensen Award**

Senior Circuit Judge J. Clifford Wallace of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, an esteemed jurist, judicial administrator and an advocate for the rule of law, will be honored in November by the American Inns of Court.

Judge Wallace will receive the prestigious A. Sherman Christensen Award, which is “bestowed upon a member of an American Inn of Court who, at the local, state or national level has provided distinguished, exceptional, and significant leadership to the American Inns of Court movement.” The award will be presented at the 2016 American Inns of Court Celebration of Excellence to be held at the U.S. Supreme Court on November 5, 2016. Associate Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr., will be the host of the event.

Judge Wallace was influential in developing the idea of the American Inns of Court and advocated enthusiastically for its establishment. He had accompanied Chief Justice Warren Burger on the 1977 Anglo-American Legal Exchange and served as keynote speaker at the organizational dinner of the first Inn of Court in Provo, Utah. Judge Wallace served as a regular adviser to Judge A. Sherman Christensen, for whom the award is named. Judge Wallace urged attendees to form the Inn to help address trial inadequacy by attorneys. He wrote an article on the topic that was published March 1982 in the ABA Journal.

Judge Wallace was nominated by President Nixon to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on May 22, 1972. He was confirmed by the Senate and received his judicial commission on June 28, 1972. He served as chief judge from 1991 to 1996 and assumed senior status in 1996. Judge Wallace served in the U.S. Navy from 1946 to 1949. He received his B.A., with honors, from San Diego State College in 1952 and his LL.B. in 1955 from the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, where he was an editor of the California Law Review.

The American Inns of Court, a national organization with 360 chapters and more than 130,000 active and alumni members, is dedicated to excellence, civility, professionalism, and ethics in the practice of law. An inn is an amalgam of judges, lawyers, and in some cases, law professors and law students. More information is available at <http://home.innsofcourt.org/>.

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