



The John E. Fenton, Jr. Public Service Awards 2009 Application

Awards will be given to three graduating Suffolk Law School students who are pursuing a career in public service. Please see the attached information sheet for further award details.

Name: _____ Suffolk ID: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Division: Day Evening Graduation Date: _____

Please include the following items to complete your Fenton Public Service Award application:

- _____ Law School Transcript (unofficial copy is acceptable)
- _____ Resume
- _____ Personal Statement (Include why you wish to embark on a career in public service law and highlight your past experiences and/or achievements in this area. Statement should be no longer than 2 double-spaced pages.)

If you have already accepted a qualifying public service position, indicate where and briefly describe your anticipated responsibilities. If you have not yet secured a job, indicate the type of position(s) you are pursuing.

List two references (professional and/or academic) with title and contact information:

1. _____

2. _____

I understand that the Fenton Selection Committee may consider financial need and I hereby authorize the Office of Financial Aid to release information contained in my financial aid file to the Selection Committee.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Please return your completed award application to the Rappaport Center for Law and Public Service.
Completed applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 26, 2009.**

The John E. Fenton, Jr. Public Service Awards

Suffolk University Law School created the John E. Fenton, Jr. Public Service Awards as a result of the proceeds from a fundraising dinner held in April 2003. The awards serve to honor Judge Fenton's forty-five year legacy of teaching and leadership at Suffolk University Law School. The mission of the Fenton Public Service Awards is to honor the professional accomplishments of John E. Fenton, Jr. and to continue Suffolk University Law School's longstanding commitment to the public sector and public interest law by encouraging outstanding Suffolk Law students to pursue public service careers.

Each spring, awards of \$8,000 each will be given to three current Suffolk University Law School students to pursue post-graduate employment with qualifying government and public interest employers. Suffolk Law School students who will graduate in May 2009 or who graduated in January 2009 are eligible to apply. Students are not required to have a position secured before applying for the award. Awards will be contingent on the recipient passing the bar exam and obtaining employment with a qualifying public service employer within one year of graduation. The Fenton Awards are the highest paid public service awards given by the Law School. Students selected as Fenton Award recipients are expected to exemplify Judge Fenton's commitment to public service and standard of excellence.

The goal of the Fenton Public Service Awards is to give graduating students the opportunity to pursue public service employment secure in the knowledge that the salary will be supplemented by the Fenton Award in the first year of employment. As a result, students committed to working in public service will not be forced to compromise their career choices solely because of financial pressures. Applicants for the Fenton Public Service Awards are also encouraged to apply for Suffolk Law's Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP). Applications for LRAP will be available at the end of March and due June 1, 2009. For further information on the Loan Repayment Assistance Program, visit the Office of Financial Aid section of the Suffolk Law website.

Eligible Placements

The Fenton Award Program seeks to assist students in obtaining highly responsible positions at government agencies and nonprofit organizations. Employment responsibilities should involve substantive legal work. Work of a primarily clerical nature does not qualify. Examples of eligible employment include, but are not limited to, state and federal government agencies, prosecutor and public defender offices, legislative offices, public interest litigation, advocacy or policy groups, and nonprofit legal services organizations. There are no geographic restrictions. The following types of employment are NOT ELIGIBLE: 1) employment with private law firms even if the firm does pro bono work; 2) employment as a judicial law clerk; 3) employment with political campaigns.

Award Selection Criteria

Fenton Award recipients will be selected on the basis of merit without regard to political affiliation. Financial need, as determined by the Office of Financial Aid, may be a consideration. The awards seek to aid students who embody John E. Fenton, Jr.'s passion for public service. The selection criteria include:

1. Demonstrated, exceptional commitment to public service law as a career, as evidenced by paid and volunteer work experience, activities, and academic work.
2. Academic achievement and/or significant achievement in a clinical, trial training (including mock trial competition) or law practice setting.
3. Consideration may be given to whether the work of the agency or organization provides access to justice or services to traditionally underserved clients.

Responsibility of Fenton Public Service Award Recipients

Fenton Award recipients are required to submit a statement at the completion of the calendar year in which they are awarded funds that describes the work they have performed and any perspective they have gained through their public service experience. These statements will be publicized through the law school's website, alumni magazine, or other media, as a way to inform and encourage other Suffolk Law students to pursue Fenton Awards and public service careers, as well as to inform the larger Suffolk community of the continuing legacy of John E. Fenton, Jr. Fenton Award recipients will also be asked to speak to students and alumni. It is hoped that past award recipients will serve as contacts in the legal community for future law students interested in public service.