

5850 Waterloo Road, Suite 140  
Columbia, MD 21045-1944

Tel: 410 480-7085 • Fax: 410 480-7081  
email: info@litsupporttoday.com

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Contact: Charles Buckwalter 305 860-5625  
Email: cbuckwalter@litsupporttoday.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Winners Receive 1<sup>st</sup> Betsy Ann Reynolds Awards at International Litigation Support Leaders Conference**

Four prominent litigation support leaders received the first annual Betsy Ann Reynolds Awards for Excellence in Litigation Support at a gala dinner May 15 as part of the first International Litigation Support Leaders Conference in Washington D.C. The conference and awards program were organized and presented by Litigation Support Today magazine. The winners were: *Corporate Legal Department category*: Beth Kellermann, Litigation E-discovery Manager for Apple, Inc.; *Private Law Firm category*: Florinda Baldrige, Director of Practice Support for Fulbright and Jaworski.; *Government category*: Carl Kikuchi, Brach Chief for the Office of Litigation Support, U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division.; *Industry Wide Category*: Tom O'Connor, Industry Consultant, of the Legal Electronic Document Institute.

Beth Kellermann recently moved to Apple's in-house legal department where she is managing the company's e-discovery needs. Previously, her career included several years at Littler Mendelson as the National Practice Support Manager. Her career began as a civil litigation paralegal. She worked her way up to a Practice Support Specialist/Manager, focusing on the development of case management systems, litigation support databases and trial presentation solutions. From there she began consulting with law firms, legal departments and technology vendors

Florinda Baldrige has brought many years experience in the legal industry to build her firm's national practice support department with a focus on cutting-edge technology and a consultative support philosophy. She also participates in the Electronic Discovery Reference Model Project working to establishing technology standards and guidelines in the area of ediscovery.

Carl Kikuchi has been the U.S. Department of Justice's pioneering trail-blazer in automated litigation support for over 20 years. Through his innovations, millions of taxpayer dollars have been saved by use of enhanced and improved litigation support products and services. In addition to the 100-plus Division cases he supports each year, he has provided information management using litigation support tools for many agency clients most notably for the Presidential Commissions investigating the Space Shuttle Challenger and Columbia tragedies and the Presidential 9/11 commission.

Tom O'Connor's commitment and passion to helping the New Orleans legal community rebuild from hurricane Katrina disaster has been relentless. He created and put together the CLE

program on legal technology and litigation support for that community and developed it into a full, program even after the spotlight on Katrina had faded. Beyond that event, O'Connor continued to bring resources, ideas and even himself to New Orleans to help rejuvenate the legal community—shining a bright light on litigation support as a profession and its respective technology.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual International Litigation Support Leaders Conference and Betsy Ann Reynolds Awards for Excellence in Litigation Support was a two-day educational event with a 30-session program in three tracks, taught by some 50 top litigation support experts. There were more than 175 attendees and 35 exhibitors and sponsors participating. Next year's conference and awards will be held again in Washington, D.C., during early May. Dates and venue are to be announced.

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