



THE IADC CARL P. BURKE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN LEGAL DEFENSE

IADC's most prestigious award!

The Carl P. Burke Award of Excellence in Legal Defense was established by unanimous Board action in January 2019. The award honors IADC's first president, Carl P. Burke, and his contribution to civil defense practice in Idaho. It celebrates and recognizes his distinguished service and extraordinary accomplishments in the field.

Carl Burke had the opportunity to hang around his father's law office while attending Boise High. After serving in World War II, he earned his law degree and was admitted to the Idaho Bar on November 17, 1950, Bar #624. After clerking for the Federal Court, he worked for a federal stabilization program tasked with enforcing price controls under President Truman's administration. In 1952, he moved to his father's firm, now Elam & Burke, and worked his way to one-third partnership interest. He was there until 2005.

In addition to practicing law, Burke had a passion for community involvement through politics. He served on campaigns for Frank Church and others; held an advisory position for the National Park Service; and represented State Senate Democrats in a case that went to the Idaho Supreme Court in 1990. Always a strong supporter of mentoring young attorneys, Burke provided guidance and training to many. Seen as a lion in Idaho law, his mantra shared with younger attorneys was: ***Be tough but be fair.*** Both of Burke's sons, Cameron and Chris, work in the legal field, too. Chris Burke, Parsons Behle-Boise, is a current member of IADC.

Burke was highly regarded for his civility and carried himself as a consummate gentleman, even in the depths of a tough case. He was known for his loyalty, professionalism and high standard of ethics. For those reasons, IADC's Board saw naming the award after Burke as a way to honor his contributions and to set a standard for future award winners.

To nominate an individual for the Carl P. Burke Award of Excellence in Legal Defense, please send a letter describing the reasons for the nomination to IADC's Board via the IADC Office. Nominations will be accepted only from IADC members in good standing. **Nominations must be submitted to the IADC Office by June 1st each year.** Nominees do not need to be current or former IADC members or licensed attorneys.

Award recipients are selected by a majority vote of IADC's Board. When approved, the award will be presented at IADC's Annual Meeting or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible. The quantity of award recipients may vary each year, as determined by the Board.