

STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA
SUPREME COURT CHAMBERS
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RICHARD MOTT
Supreme Court Justice

JAN PERLIN
Principal Law Clerk

DEBRA TORREY
Secretary

September 29, 2016

Ms. Laura Hankin
Librarian
Columbia County Supreme Court Library
401 Union Street
Hudson, NY 12534

Re: DIY Star Award

Dear Laura:

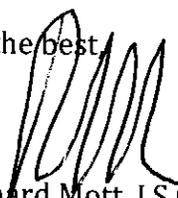
Due to a trial commitment in Albany, regrettably I am unable to attend today's award ceremony at which you will be most deservedly honored. Nevertheless, on behalf of the Columbia County Supreme Court Law Library Board of Trustees, please accept our heartfelt congratulations upon the conferral of the New York State Courts Access to Justice Program's DIY Star Award, to you in recognition of your exemplary and zealous service to this community and beyond.

Having served with you on the library board over the past four years, together with John Leonardson, Esq., Dennis McEvoy, Esq., Francis Roche, Esq. and Edward Cross, I have had the opportunity to observe firsthand your ingenuity and resolute efforts in the creation and implementation of the Help Center at the Columbia County Supreme Court Library. Your indomitable drive to provide greater public access to law library resources is a prime example of how one achieves meaningful innovation in the administration of justice. In addition to your proficiency in managing the Law Library, as our first formally trained librarian, your outreach to the public, including advising and assisting other court librarians and leadership of the day to day operation of the Help Center further has advanced this goal.

In addition to staffing the physical plant and providing orientation to individuals seeking information about how the courts function, you have expanded public access by facilitating remote use of these resources. As a result, litigants, students, inmates, judges, attorneys and court personnel here and in the town and village courts are being provided with significant access to library and community resources. Due to your industry, the public is better able to channel its concerns in order to obtain appropriate and prompt relief to the benefit of those concerned. In fact, I note that your enterprise has already garnered concrete results, as several self-represented litigants recently appearing before me have demonstrated greater familiarity with court processes and legal mandates.

Indeed, you have helped to engineer a veritable living library capable of responding to the real day to day legal concerns and needs of our citizenry and for that I and the Library Board of Trustees extend to you our congratulations and profound gratitude for your exemplary service.

All the best,



Richard Mott, J.S.C.

cc by email:

Hon. Fern A. Fisher
Hon. Lawrence K. Marks
Hon. Michael V. Coccoma
Hon. Thomas A. Breslin
Beth Diebel, Esq.
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