

**For Immediate Release:**

Sunday, July 14, 2013

## **Justice Initiatives, Inc. Announces Winner of the 2013 Raising the Bar Award**

**Charlotte, NC** – Ms. Carol Swann has been selected as the winner of the 2013 Raising the Bar Award. Ms. Swann serves a judicial assistant for the 26th Judicial District of North Carolina; a position which she has held since 2001. In this capacity, she has been instrumental in providing logistical support for six district court judges including the added demands of serving the chief district court judge. Among the accomplishments noted in her nomination was her creation of a system for tracking administrative orders, assisting in the development of a more efficient handgun permit appeals process, maintaining weekly and yearly judge scheduling and coordinating the use of emergency and visiting judges as needed. She was also recognized for her role in managing the scheduling of meetings for lead district court judges, organizing an orientation program for new district court judges, and coordinating the meetings for the Bail Policy Task Force, among many others.

Justice Initiatives, Inc. board member, Brenda Stewart, along with Lawyer's Weekly representative, Liz Irwin, presented Ms. Swann with the award at the Seventh Annual Evening at the Courthouse Fundraiser on April 25th.

Each year, this award is presented to honor a court employee who has made a significant and notable contribution to the advancement of the Mecklenburg County court system. The type of contribution made can vary. It may be related to performance, leadership, innovation, advocacy, public education or some other meritorious area related to the public good. The board of directors determines the relevancy, level of importance and degree to which each contribution has made a difference. The winner receives a check for \$1,000.00, a plaque in recognition of his or her accomplishment(s) and the permanent listing of their name in the registry of past winners.

For more information please visit [www.justiceinitiatives.org](http://www.justiceinitiatives.org).

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