



Washington State Bar Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WSBA Recognizes Central Valley High School Teacher

(SEATTLE) — Longtime Central Valley High School teacher **Stan Chalich** will be honored this Wednesday by the Washington State Bar Association's Council on Public Legal Education (CPLE) for his 40 years as an outstanding educator.

Chalich will be presented with the Flame of Democracy Award, created by the CPLE in 2002 to recognize individuals, organizations, and programs that significantly increase the public's understanding of law, the justice system, and government. This year is the first time the award was given to a teacher, and two individuals were selected; in addition to Chalich, the award was given in March to **Rick Nagel**, retired from Franklin High School.

The presentation will be made by **Linda Kawaguchi**, director of the Chastek Library at Gonzaga University School of Law and member of the CPLE, at Central Valley High School's Recognition Assembly on May 20. The venue is appropriate, as Chalich was nominated by numerous colleagues and former students who submitted a video testimonial to the CPLE awards committee. Many of his former students are now working in government or the justice system.

Chalich's nominators talked about his efforts to interest students in law and government by introducing them to judges and legislators, both in the classroom and in real world settings such as courthouses. "Stan's passion for democracy, civic duty and doing your part by voting helped students to be better citizens," wrote nominator **Rick Sloan**, a colleague and former student. Chalich currently teaches government classes at the high school from which he graduated in 1963.

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The mission of the CPLE, a committee of the Washington State Bar Association, is to promote public understanding of the law and civic rights and responsibilities. Further information about the CPLE may be found at www.wsba.org/ple.

About the Washington State Bar Association

The WSBA is part of the judicial branch, exercising a governmental function authorized by the Washington State Supreme Court to license the state's 33,200 lawyers. The WSBA both regulates lawyers under the authority of the Court and serves its members as a professional association – all without public funding. As a regulatory agency, the WSBA administers the bar admission process, including the bar exam; provides record-keeping and licensing functions; and administers the lawyer-discipline system. As a professional association, the WSBA provides continuing legal education for attorneys, in addition to numerous other educational and member-service activities.

The governance of the WSBA is vested in its Board of Governors. There are three governors from the seventh congressional district; one from each of the other eight districts; and three at-large, one of whom represents the Young Lawyers Division. The president is **Mark A. Johnson**, of Seattle. The president-elect is **Salvador A. Mungia**, of Tacoma, and the immediate past-president is **Stanley A. Bastian**, of Wenatchee. The Board meets regularly (every six weeks) at various locations around the state, and its meetings are open to the public. Much of the work of the Bar is carried out through its numerous standing committees, 27 sections, and a Young Lawyers Division with its many committees.

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