

American College of Consumer Financial Services Lawyers Senator William Proxmire Lifetime Achievement Award

Presented on April 18, 2015 to

JEREMIAH S. BUCKLEY

The American College of Consumer Financial Services Lawyers is pleased to present its Senator William Proxmire Lifetime Achievement Award to Jeremiah "Jerry" S. Buckley.

Jerry Buckley is truly one of the leading practitioners in the area of consumer financial services law. Jerry was present at the creation of many of the key consumer financial services laws, and participated in drafting several of them, during his 45-year career. His career spans public service, Congressional staff positions, and private practice in leading law firms, including the one that bears his name, BuckleySandler LLP. As the former Republican staff director on the Senate Banking Committee, it is particularly fitting for Jerry to receive this award, named after the Senator who chaired the Committee during Jerry's service.

After graduating from the University of Virginia Law School in 1969, Jerry started his legal career as a public interest attorney with Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), where he focused on housing issues in Detroit. He represented non-profits providing inner-city housing and served as counsel for the Detroit Model Cities Governing Board. Later, he led an investigation of the FHA housing crisis of the early 1970s as counsel on the House Government Operations Committee. As Republican Staff Director of the Senate Banking Committee, he helped draft housing legislation, securities law amendments, and consumer financial services laws, including RESPA, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, and Truth in Lending Act amendments. In the Senate Banking Committee, Jerry engaged in bipartisan efforts with Senator William Proxmire's staff on RESPA, ECOA, FCRA, HMDA, and the Community Reinvestment Act.

Jerry is a senior founding partner of BuckleySandler LLP, a 165-lawyer firm with offices in Washington, Los Angeles, New York, Chicago and London. Chambers USA calls BuckleySandler “one of the most enterprising law firms in the financial service sector.”

Jerry is a pioneer of the law of electronic delivery of financial services and a leading authority on electronic signatures and records. He was instrumental in urging passage of the E-SIGN Act and his book, *The Law of Electronic Signatures and Records* (co-authored with his partners at BuckleySandler) is one of the first legal treatises on electronic signatures. He also helped organize the Electronic Signatures and Records Association (www.esignrecords.org), the premier trade association for electronic signature adopters.

Supplementing his successful law practice, Jerry Buckley is a teacher and mentor who contributes his time and talents to educating future lawyers. He teaches consumer financial services law at American University’s Washington College of Law, and in 2013, he lectured on American civil procedure at the China Foreign Affairs Institute in Beijing, China. His book, *Introduction to Mortgage Lending*, written with Andrea Lee Negroni for the American Bankers Association, is used to train bank loan officers about the legal environment facing residential mortgage lenders. Jerry has a gift for communicating with young lawyers, law students and those new to the financial services industry, and he is a cheerleader and advocate for them.

Jerry has been selected as a “SuperLawyer,” a “Best Lawyer,” and a “Who’s Who” Lawyer by various publications, and was one of only 114 attorneys nationwide named to the “2005 BTI Client Service All-Stars” team for law firms. In *Chambers 2014*, Jerry is ranked a Senior Statesman in Financial Services Regulation.

Jerry has always volunteered time and energy to advance the legal profession, including through his chairmanship of the RESPA Subcommittee of the American Bar Association’s Consumer Financial Services Committee and service as Vice-Chancellor of the Exchequer Club of Washington DC. His entrepreneurial drive led to the creation of new resources for financial providers and attorneys, including the State Attorneys General Enforcement (STAGE) Network and Treliant Risk Advisors, a leading consulting firm for the banking industry. Through these and other activities, Jerry created many career opportunities for lawyers, analysts, paralegals and others. He has done all this while “giving back” to non-profits and

charities such as the Youth Leadership Foundation, the Global Good Fund, and the Catholic Church.

Among those who know him, Jerry is admired not only professionally, but for the strength of his personal relationships, of which the most important is his 32-year marriage to Debbie. For many years, Jerry and Debbie have conducted marriage prep classes for couples to be married in the Catholic Church. The abiding and evident affection between them inspires and encourages these couples and many, many others who call Jerry and Debbie friends. The Buckleys have three adult daughters; twins Gretta and Anne are here tonight and their older sister Mary, a scientist in Boston, will be married at Debbie and Jerry's Virginia farm this summer.