Remembering Judge Edward M. Ginsburg

On June 24, 2023, the legal profession lost one of its finest members—and MCLE one of its most dedicated volunteers—with the passing of Judge Edward M. Ginsburg. Judge Ginsburg brought the expertise of over 25 years as an associate justice of the Probate and Family Court to every MCLE program he was involved in. He was an enthusiastic MCLE volunteer for over 40 years who participated in more than 120 family law programs. He was a judicial commentator on MCLE’s Divorce Law Practice Manual. His annual programs included the Probate & Family Court Lawyer for the Day Training and the Court-Certified Conciliation Training. He was an active participant in MCLE’s annual Family Law Trial Advocacy Workshop and creator and chair of the highly acclaimed Family Law Mediation Workshop (now in its 18th year). He was involved, in some way or another, with over half of the current family law programs MCLE offers. In 2010, he received MCLE’s Scholar-Mentor Award for his career-long contributions to continuing legal education and exceptional service to the legal profession.

Judge Ginsburg’s volunteer efforts were not contained to MCLE. He was strongly committed to providing legal services to persons who could not otherwise afford legal representation, founding the pro bono initiative, Senior Partners for Justice, in 2002. He was also a mentor at Community Legal Aid and adjunct professor at Boston College Law School and honored as 2005 Bostonian of the Year for his efforts to expose the truth behind the Big Dig.

Judge Ginsburg was a friend to MCLE. He would regularly come into staff members’ in his trademark bowtie to commiserate about the Red Sox. His legal knowledge spawned more programs and suggested more faculty members for programs than will ever be realized. Weekly phone calls to discuss preparation for his next program were highlights. He sang the praises of MCLE staff to everyone.

In recognition of his outstanding career, MCLE previously established the Hon. Edward M. Ginsburg Scholarship Fund, which endows scholarships and provides training opportunities and resources for lawyers who, without financial assistance, would not be able to avail themselves of MCLE programs and resources. It also allows those of us who knew, respected, and learned from him to honor an outstanding and beloved practitioner whose life and work exemplified the best of Massachusetts’ rich legal heritage. Learn more about the fund and make a donation in Judge Ginsburg’s honor here.

About MCLE: Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education, Inc. (MCLE | New England®) aims to keep raising the caliber of lawyers’ professional and ethical service to their clients and communities by providing comprehensive and practical continuing legal education of the highest quality to the broadest possible audience.