



ASWB recognizes accomplishments in social work regulation

The 2014 award recipients serve as role models of dedication and leadership



Tim Brown receives the Sunny Andrews award from ASWB President Dorinda Noble.



Ruthie Bain receives the Board Administrator award from Harold Dean, chair of the Arkansas board.

Every year, ASWB presents two leadership awards in recognition of the achievements of social work regulators nominated by their peers. The Sunny Andrews Award for Outstanding Commitment to Social Work Regulatory Board Service is presented to a board member. The Board Administrator Award for Outstanding Commitment to Social Work Regulatory Board Service recognizes member board staff. Winners are chosen by the Board of Directors and are recognized during an awards ceremony at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. This year's winners, recognized at the meeting held in Boise, Idaho, in November, were Timothy Martel Brown of Texas and Ruthie Bain of Arkansas.

Sunny Andrews Award Timothy Martel Brown (TX)

ASWB President Dorinda Noble, who nominated Brown, also presented him with the award. On Brown's nomination form, Noble pointed out that Brown is the only Texas board member to have been reappointed three times.

Brown has served as the chair of the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners since 2007, a job where, Noble said, he has made the board "stronger and bolder in meeting its public protection mission."

Brown "has gone above and beyond the call of duty to work behind the scenes to establish cooperation

between professional groups and to protect the board from outside threat. [His] leadership and courage have been exemplary," Noble said.

In his acceptance speech, Brown said, "I appreciate even being considered for this award. Through the years, all the work I've done, I've considered it a privilege to work with regulation."

Board Administrator Award Ruthie Bain (AK)

Harold Dean, chair of the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board, nominated Bain and presented the award to her at the meeting. Dean noted on Bain's nomination form that she has singlehandedly and very successfully managed the operations of the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board for the past seven years.

"Because of her efficiency, our board is able to concentrate on the salient issues of social work regulation," Dean said. "She has more than demonstrated her commitment to her job and the cause of social work regulation ..."

During her acceptance speech, Bain expressed thanks to members of the Arkansas board for their appreciation of the work she has done and to ASWB for the association's work and resources in the field of social work regulation. She also conveyed gratitude toward the social workers in her state, whom she said "have been extremely kind and helpful."