

7-10-2013

Prestigious American Bar Association (ABA) Award to GGU Law's Environmental Law and Justice Clinic (ELJC)

Lisa Lomba

Golden Gate University School of Law, llomba@ggu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/pressreleases>



Part of the [Environmental Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Lomba, Lisa, "Prestigious American Bar Association (ABA) Award to GGU Law's Environmental Law and Justice Clinic (ELJC)" (2013). *Press Releases*. Paper 87.

<http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/pressreleases/87>

This Press Release is brought to you for free and open access by the About GGU School of Law at GGU Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Press Releases by an authorized administrator of GGU Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jfischer@ggu.edu.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 10, 2013

Media Contacts:

Lisa Lomba, Director of Communications and Media Relations

Golden Gate University School of Law

Tel: 415-442-6636

Email: llomba@ggu.edu

Professor Helen Kang, Director of the Environmental Law & Justice Clinic

Golden Gate University School of Law

Tel: 415.442.6693

Email: hkang@ggu.edu

**Prestigious American Bar Association (ABA) Award to
GGU Law's Environmental Law and Justice Clinic (ELJC)**

The Environmental Law and Justice Clinic at Golden Gate University School of Law receives the Dedication to Diversity and Justice Award from the ABA environment section for its successful representation of underserved communities with environmental challenges.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – July 10, 2013 – The Environmental Law & Justice Clinic at Golden Gate University School of Law (GGU Law) has received the Dedication to Diversity and Justice Award from the ABA's Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources. The award recognizes and honors the accomplishments of leading organizations in the areas of environmental justice and those who embrace a commitment to gender, racial, and ethnic diversity in the areas of environment, energy, and natural resources. GGU Law's ELJC received the award for its achievements in significantly reducing pollution in numerous underrepresented communities living amidst manufacturing and power plants.

"This is a tremendous honor," said Rachel Van Cleave, Dean of GGU Law. "We're so proud of our Environmental Law and Justice Clinic whose achievements on behalf of underserved communities and individuals have produced such positive results. I cannot think of a better way to commemorate our 20th Anniversary this fall of the Clinic than with this wonderful award."

Over the past two decades, GGU Law's ELJC has served as a relentless advocate for underrepresented communities in a variety of environmental cases. The Clinic advocates for safe drinking water, energy policies that reduce pollution, and environmental protection of underrepresented California communities. ELJC's leadership and expertise have allowed communities most impacted by energy generation, climate change, and other environmental challenges to meaningfully participate in legal proceedings.

ELJC's greatest victories have been generated by working closely with community stakeholders. Representing community interests with other community-based advocates and advocacy groups, ELJC has won victories for residents and communities in Pittsburg, Hayward, and Bayview Hunters Point.

"This award is not only a testament to the Clinic's work, but a recognition of the power of grassroots groups and individuals who are willing to better their communities," said Professor Helen Kang, Director of ELJC.

On top of individual victories with statewide impact, the Clinic has developed expertise on climate change policy issues to support its clients in this important arena. In 2008 and 2010, the Clinic represented climate scientists in submitting their amicus briefs in two separate cases involving California's effort to regulate greenhouse gases from motor vehicles.

###

About GGU Law's Environmental Law and Justice Clinic

Golden Gate University School of Law founded the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic (ELJC) to serve as a training ground for the next generation of social justice advocates and to provide critical legal services to underserved communities. Founded in 1994 in consultation with San Francisco Bay Area communities suffering the most from pollution, it is one of the first law school clinics in the United States to prioritize environmental justice in its work. It is known as a provider of high-quality *pro bono* legal and technical support to improve environmental conditions in impacted communities throughout California and beyond. In 2009, the Clinic received the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Pacific Southwest Region (Region 9) Environmental Award for Outstanding Achievement.

About GGU Law

Golden Gate University School of Law offers full and part-time law programs that blend practical skills training with legal theory to prepare students to be critical thinkers, problem solvers, and leaders, with the flexibility to respond to changes in the legal profession. Our mission is to produce a diverse group of graduates with the skill, judgment, and moral compass to become exceptional lawyers and socially responsible members of the global community.