

JUDITH SOLEY LAWYER AS CITIZEN AWARD

PAULINE A. WEAVER

Pauline Weaver has spent her entire legal career dedicated not only to working as a Public Defender with indigent clients in the criminal law system, but also to improving the legal system through education and involvement in local, state and national bar associations. She has worked with impressive legal and civic organizations for broad societal /legal goals, and if that did not keep her busy enough, she also focused on the small and personal contributions - serving as a literacy volunteer, and a mentor for recent parolees.

She never joins a committee just to attend meetings. She took on governing roles in every one of her more than 100 boards, committees and commissions, including the American Bar Association, the State Bar of California, the Foundation of the State Bar, the California Judicial Council, and California Women Lawyers for four years, becoming President 1988-1989.

She cut a similar social justice swath through civic and community organizations., and is still going strong. Recently, she participated in Fremont's first Emerging Leaders Program - a two-day retreat on Racial Equality Leadership. The breadth of her work and commitment also is demonstrated by her being a founding member of Interfaith Women of Peace, a group which works in the community for understanding and peaceful interaction among different religious faiths.

One of her earliest actions for social justice was being one of four women to join Rotary International in California after the U.S. Supreme Court 1987 decision banning its exclusion. As a Board member of the Center for Civic Education and Chair of its International Committee, she was a 2007 delegate to the World Congress on Civic Education in Morocco. One of her most recent forays was to serve as the first female ABA volunteer observer to the Military Commission Hearings (Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and four co-defendants) at Guantanamo, Cuba.

Pauline has received numerous awards for her legal and civic work, including the ABA's Nelson Award in 2013. This Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the ABA by a government or public sector lawyer.

In addition to all her professional activities, her personal and professional qualities, including compassion, inclusiveness, integrity, wisdom and humor, are second to none, and so well reflect those same qualities of our Award namesake, Judith Soley.