



THE LAWYERS GUILD

OF THE CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Catholic Lawyers Guild Names Nationally-Recognized Attorney as Recipient of 2016 St. Thomas More Award



(Sept. 15, 2016) Michael J. Frantz has been selected as the 2016 recipient of the prestigious St. Thomas More Award by The Lawyers Guild of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. Frantz is a partner at Frantz Ward LLP in Cleveland, Ohio where he also serves as a member of the firm's Management Committee. He is nationally recognized as a leading attorney for exceptional client service and experience in labor and employment law.

The Catholic Lawyers Guild presents the St. Thomas More Award each year in honor of the patron saint of lawyers to a distinguished member of the legal community for contributing to high ethical standards and spiritual growth in the practice of law. The award is presented each fall in conjunction with the Annual Red Mass for the legal community at The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. This year, the Red Mass and Luncheon will take place on October 7, 2016.

Frantz received his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame, graduating *magna cum laude* in 1973. He received his J.D. from Georgetown University in 1976. He has been recognized at the highest ranking, Band 1, in the area of Labor and Employment by *Chambers USA: America's Guide to Leading Lawyers in Business* and designated *Best Lawyers' "2016 Lawyer of the Year"* in Employment Law-Management in Cleveland. He is continuously named to The Best Lawyers in America and the Ohio Super Lawyers list.

Frantz is very active in the professional community and is a member of the American Bar Association, Labor Law Section; Ohio Bar Association, Labor Law Section; and the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Labor Law Section, where he has served as the chairman. Frantz is active in many other

professional associations, including the National Association of College and University Attorneys, American Arbitration Association Labor Advisory Council, and the Defense Research Institute, Labor Relations Committee.

For forty years, Frantz' practice has been devoted to the exclusive representation of employers and their management teams in dealing with the full range of labor and employment issues. He has represented employers in contract negotiations with virtually every major union in the U.S. and Canada. Throughout his career he has focused on representing health care and higher education institutions, as well as manufacturing companies and service organizations.

Frantz' leadership involvement with the Diocese of Cleveland extends from human service organizations to Catholic education. He has served on the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Foundation Advisory Board and the Catholic Charities Services Corporation on the Board of Trustees and currently serves as a member of the Human Resource Committee. He is also a member of the Human Resource Consultants to the Secretariat for Catholic Charities Health and Human Service. Frantz has also been a board member and served in leadership roles for St. Joseph Academy, St. Ignatius High School, St. Malachi Center and the Notre Dame Club of Cleveland. He is on the Board of Trustees for St. Vincent Charity Development Foundation and a member of St. John Medical Center Leadership Council. Frantz, an Eagle Scout, is a member of the Executive Board for the Boy Scouts of America, Greater Cleveland Council.

Frantz and his wife, Julie, are members of St. Raphael Parish in Bay Village, where Frantz is the former president of the Parish Council and is a member of the Finance Council. Julie and Mike are the proud parents of seven children: Katie, Elizabeth, Michael Jr., Joe, Mary, Jonathan and Molly, and also have five grandchildren.

The St. Thomas More Award will be presented during a noon luncheon at the Cleveland Marriott Downtown at Key Center on October 7 after the annual Red Mass at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, 1007 Superior Ave., Cleveland. Additionally as part of this event, Mark and Christi Tripodi and the staff at Cornerstone of Hope, A Center for Grieving Children, Teens and Adults, will receive the Special Recognition Award. For information or to order tickets, please contact Colleen Rigo of The Catholic Community Foundation at (216) 696-6525, ext. 4080 or crigo@catholiccommunity.org.

The Lawyers Guild of The Catholic Diocese of Cleveland serves the counties of Ashland, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Summit and Wayne. The Guild fosters spiritual growth and fellowship within the legal community, encourages observance of high ethical standards, and calls attention to legal and societal issues that affect morality, justice and faith. Past recipients of the St. Thomas More Award include the Honorable Patricia Gaughan, Larry Dolan, the Honorable Richard McMonagle, Robert Maynard, Geoffrey Mearns, the Honorable Leo M. Spellacy, GERALYN M. PRESTI, Kathleen Burke, Peter Carfagna and more.