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**American Association of Law Libraries Names  
2019 Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature Award Winners  
Harris County Law Library, Shamika D. Dalton honored**

**CHICAGO – April 30, 2019** –The [American Association of Law Libraries](http://www.aallnet.org) (AALL) today announces it has named the 2019 Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature Award winners, including the Harris County Law Library for its *Pro Se Litigant Handbook and Manual para Litigantes Pro Se* as well as Shamika D. Dalton, author and editor of *Celebrating Diversity: A Legacy of Minority Leadership in the American Association of Law Libraries (2nd edition)*. Dalton shares this award with co-authors Dr. Yvonne J. Chandler, Vicente E. Garces, Dennis C. Kim-Prieto, Carol Avery Nicholson and Dr. Michele A. L. Villagran.

Presented annually, the Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature Award recognizes a significant textual contribution—a book, pamphlet, periodical, website, database, or other publication—to legal literature. Nominations are measured by their creative, evaluative elements, and the extent to which originality and judgment factored into the work’s formation.

“This year’s winners of the Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature Award have made literary contributions to the legal community that are at the very heart of AALL’s mission and values: aiding in access to justice for all and celebrating diversity as a strength of our organization,” said AALL President Femi Cadmus. “Our profession, the legal community and public at large are better off for their contributions as a result. I applaud them for their work.”

The *Pro Se Litigant Handbook* provides a unique, bilingual publication that can be duplicated across other jurisdictions. A passion project of the law library staff of the Harris County Law Library, this handbook has been produced in a number of print and digital formats, allowing for adoption by local judges, attorneys and the bar association.

“On behalf of all my colleagues who worked diligently to bring this work into reality, I am honored to accept the Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature Award,” said Mariann Sears, director of the Harris County Law Library. “The *Pro Se Litigant Handbook* was created to help ensure those who cannot afford a lawyer don’t suffer because of their inability to pay, but instead can find a path toward justice. My colleagues and I are so proud of how this handbook has been received and adopted, and I thank AALL for honoring our work.”

Another collaborative work, *Celebrating Diversity* expands on the first edition by providing new insights that include comparative survey data and profiles highlighting the accomplishments of participating law librarians.

“My co-authors and I selected a number of minority law librarians whose contributions are not only inspiring, but we hope, might also promote our profession so we can continue to attract and

retain the most talented individuals possible,” said Dalton, associate director for public services and professor of legal research at the University of Florida Levin College of Law. “My thanks to AALL for honoring our work.”

The Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature recipients will be honored at the upcoming 112th AALL Annual Meeting & Conference, to be held in Washington, D.C. from July 13-16, 2019.

For more information about AALL’s Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature Award, visit [bit.ly/AALL-andrews](http://bit.ly/AALL-andrews).

To learn more about the 2019 AALL Annual Meeting and to register, visit [www.aallnet.org/conference](http://www.aallnet.org/conference).

### **About AALL**

The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) is the only national association dedicated to the legal information profession and its professionals. Founded in 1906 on the belief that people—lawyers, judges, students, and the public—need timely access to relevant legal information to make sound legal arguments and wise legal decisions, its more than 4,100 members are problem solvers of the highest order. AALL fosters the profession by offering its members knowledge, leadership, and community that make the whole legal system stronger. For more information, visit [www.aallnet.org](http://www.aallnet.org).