

## NOMINATION FOR 2018 ELDON G. KAUL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

**Submitted by Elizabeth H. Schmiesing and Charles N. Nauen**

We write to nominate Richard A. Duncan for this year's award.

Throughout his career, Rick has been a tireless advocate for the environment and has worked on numerous cases that have helped to define environmental law in Minnesota. In addition, Rick has served as a mentor to newer lawyers by helping them to find opportunities to practice in the environmental area and doing it successfully. Rick's mentees currently contribute to the practice of environmental law through work in academia, nonprofits, and private practice. Rick has also contributed to environmental law by teaching the Environmental Law Moot Court class at the University of Minnesota before passing that opportunity on to more junior lawyers. Rick also served as a past chair of the HCBA Environmental Law Section.

Rick's achievements in environmental law have been recognized for years. They include inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* for both Environmental Law and Timber Law from 1995-2017 and inclusion in *Who's Who in American Law*. Rick received the Sierra Club's William O. Douglas Award in 2007 and Faegre's John C. Benson Pro Bono Award in 2008.

Rick devotes significant portions of his free time to environmental causes as well. Rick currently serves on the Board of Directors of the International Wolf Center and on the Litigation Policy Board of the Environmental Law & Policy Center.

We have included in this nomination a list of Rick's public interest environmental law cases. Of particular note is his work in pursuit of wilderness preservation for a number of preeminent organizations, including Wilderness Watch, the Wilderness Society, Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness and Wilderness Inquiry, an organization that specializes in providing wilderness adventures to disabled and able-bodied people. Rick also successfully defended the St. Croix Wild and Scenic Riverway from the proposed Stillwater bridge in federal court on two separate occasions. While Congress eventually approved construction of the bridge, Rick's pioneering legal work in obtaining protection for the only urban riverway protected under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act still stands.

We thank the Section Counsel for its consideration of this nomination.

Elizabeth H. Schmiesing (past chair of MSBA ENRE Section)

Charles N. Nauen (2016 Eldon G. Kaul Award Winner and past chair of the HCBA Environmental Section)