

# ARMSTRONG TEASDALE RECOGNIZES LAWYERS AND STAFF WITH 2023 INCLUSION AWARDS

Armstrong Teasdale celebrated its annual Inclusion Week in October across offices. Hosted by the firm's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Department and Inclusion Committee, Inclusion Week offers an opportunity to embrace diversity and celebrate unity through programming and activities designed to immerse lawyers and staff in the importance of inclusion as a shared value firmwide. This year's programming included a mental health walk, a presentation from author and mental health advocate Sophie Riegel on inclusive communication in the workplace, a celebration of diverse tastes, an opportunity to connect with the firm's nine resource groups, and an award program, among other activities.

The award program recognizes lawyers and staff who made a significant impact on the firm's DEI goals and demonstrated their commitment to DEI both at the firm and within the legal community.

**Inclusive Leader:** This award recognizes a team leader or client account manager (lawyer or staff) who has made significant strides/track record of inclusive leadership as demonstrated through mentorship, engagement, active learning and service. This year two people received this award.

Director of Analytics and Business Systems Nick Strothmann was cited for his dedicated interest in DEI and his efforts in achieving the firm's Mansfield Rule 6.0 Certification Plus designation. "Whether through the use of technology or general conversation, he leads with an open mind and has demonstrated his commitment to DEI through his work," his nominator said.

Partner, Financial and Real Estate Services Practice Group Leader and Executive Committee Member Robert Klahr was recognized for his ongoing demonstration of his commitment to the firm's DEI efforts and how he "shows up and clears barriers so others can move forward with initiatives that support the firm's commitment. His finger is on the pulse of current issues and how they affect the firm" and our people.

**Trailblazer:** Recognizing a lawyer or staff professional who has served as a

## PEOPLE

Robert D. Klahr



tireless and unwavering steward for DEI both inside the organization and in the community, this award went to St. Louis Human Resources Generalist Christopher Anderson, who was cited for being a tireless advocate working for inclusive change at the firm. Anderson is also noted for actively finding ways to assist all of the firm's resource groups and establishing critical DEI resources.

**Client Champion:** This award recognizes a current lawyer and AT client duo who go above and beyond to make measurable strides to create a more inclusive legal industry. New York Intellectual Property Partner Michael Gnibus received this award for addressing client needs in DEI space and for encouraging others by example and leading conversations about solutions.

**Ally:** The Ally award recognizes a lawyer or staff professional who is known most for their ability to support others across diverse differences/backgrounds. This year, Wilmington Intellectual Property Legal Assistant Joy Waters was honored for extending her voice and effort to cultivate a culture of belonging for all. She consistently celebrates cultural observances and heritage months in the office, and facilitates an inclusive environment where we all belong.

Learn more about Armstrong Teasdale's commitment to DEI at [www.armstrongteasdale.com/inclusion](http://www.armstrongteasdale.com/inclusion).