



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Exemplary Employee Award Presented to Attorney Daniel Eichinger**

**PITTSBURGH** – Allegheny County Manager William D. McKain, CPA announced today that the County has presented its Exemplary Employee Award to Mr. Daniel Eichinger, Esq., an employee of the county who is in the Appeals Division of the Office of the Public Defender.

“We created the Exemplary Employee Award and the Frank J. Lucchino Distinguished Service Award to recognize and reward exemplary performance by county employees, particularly when it comes to the exceptional efficiency and productivity of our employees,” said County Executive Rich Fitzgerald. “By his example and work, Daniel demonstrates that each and every day. Not only does he do his job efficiently and successfully, but he also shares of himself and his talents with clients and coworkers.”

While Attorney Eichinger is primarily an attorney in the Appeals Division, he does much more for the Office than effectively write and orally argue appeals in the Pennsylvania Superior and Supreme Courts. For well over a year, Attorney Eichinger voluntarily handles preliminary hearings in Pittsburgh Municipal Court at least once each week and, when appropriate, he will follow cases to the trial stage if charges are held for court. Attorney Eichinger also takes on a mentoring role with the new attorneys in the office.

“I am proud that Daniel and his family are residents of Council District 12,” said Council Member Jim Ellenbogen. “Even though he has only worked for the county for a little under three years, it’s clear that Daniel has made his impact felt and is a valued member of the team in the Office of the Public Defender. He obviously has a strong work ethic and embodies the mission of the Office in providing competent and effective legal counsel.”

Attorney Eichinger was nominated by the leadership team in the Office of the Public Defender for his recent representation of a client who was charged, and went to trial, on two felony counts of robbery. Through Attorney Eichinger’s hard work and dedication, the jury returned a “not guilty” verdict a mere 15 minutes after the start of deliberations. His success in this case was described in his nomination:

*“Attorney Eichinger’s success can be attributed to hard work, attention to detail, effective cross-examination, and a willingness to question police procedures. Attorney Eichinger demonstrated not only zealous advocacy skills, but also a commitment to the client with his numerous jail visits and willingness to discuss issues with the client and explain his decisions creating trust in his representation. It is for all these reasons that Attorney Eichinger exemplifies the skills that make him an excellent Public Defender and employee of Allegheny County.”*

Attorney Eichinger was surprised during a meeting this afternoon where it was announced that he was a winner of the Exemplary Employee Award. He was presented with a joint County proclamation from the County Executive, Council Member Jim Ellenbogen and County Council. He was also presented with an Allegheny County family pool pass for the 2015 Summer Season.

“I was honored to have worked for Judge Lucchino and count presenting this award, named for him, as one of my greatest pleasures as County Manager,” said McKain. “Attorney Eichinger is truly deserving of

this award and is a true asset to our County. We are proud of the work that he does in the Public Defender's Office and are grateful for the example he sets for his fellow attorneys, and other county employees."

The Honorable Frank J. Lucchino has a long and distinguished career serving the citizens of Allegheny County. For 20 years, he was the county's elected Controller (1980-2000) before being elected to the Court of Common Pleas and has served on the bench since 2000. Judge Lucchino is currently a Senior Judge on the Court. The Frank J. Lucchino Distinguished Service Award is presented annually to an employee or employee group who has exceeded all expectations, made a significant impact upon the county, and has represented the county admirably in his or her actions.

The Exemplary Employee Award is presented periodically throughout the year in recognition of exceptional achievements by a county employee or employee group. Nominations can be submitted in writing or online at <http://www.alleghenycounty.us/manager/award.aspx>.

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