



ABOTA celebrates the life of Janet Reno

To the Editor:

The American Board of Trial Advocates celebrates the life of Janet Reno, who passed away on Nov. 7, 2016, by remembering her as an Honorary Diplomate, the highest accolade that ABOTA can award. That award is only presented to those individuals who have attained national or international prominence for outstanding work in our nation's judicial system.

Janet Reno was a true breaker of the glass ceiling, both as a lawyer, state attorney and as the first female U.S. Attorney General. One commentator observed that she was an anomaly for Washington D.C., as she took responsibility for her actions and acknowledged her mistakes. In short, Janet Reno had towering integrity.

In 1995, Janet Reno received Honorary Diplomate status. This is an honor that has been given to only 16 individuals out of more than 7,500 members. Requiring unanimous approval by the National Board of Directors, the recipient must have made continuing and significant contributions to our nation's justice system and the rule of law.

ABOTA is an invitation only trial lawyer organization that is evenly divided between defense and plaintiff civil trial lawyers. ABOTA stands for the preservation of the right of trial by jury in civil cases and the independence of the judiciary, both of which are enshrined in the U.S. Constitution. ABOTA promotes civility and professionalism as the standards for trial lawyers.

Janet Reno met and excelled in all of ABOTA's ideals in her many contributions to the people of Florida and the people of the United States, thus entitling her to be an Honorary Diplomate of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

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National President
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