

Judge Stoddard receives another award



Hillsborough Circuit Judge Ralph Stoddard, center, is this year's winner of the Abraham Lincoln Award from the Tampa Bay Inn of Court. Pictured with Stoddard are, left to right, Judge Claudia Isom; Judge Emmett L. Battles, president of the inn; J. Meredith Wester, treasurer of the inn; Brian Oblow, secretary for the inn; David Banker, executive director of the inn; and Judge Lisa Campbell, immediate past president of the organization.

The Tampa Bay Inn of Court has chosen Hillsborough Circuit Judge Ralph Stoddard the 2012 winner of the Abraham Lincoln Award. The annual honor is given to the member who best exemplifies the goals of the inn: promoting legal excellence, civility, professionalism and ethics in the practice of law.

A judge since 1997, Stoddard joined the Tampa Bay Inn of Court in 2005 and has served as president-elect, president and counselor. He teaches trial advocacy as an adjunct professor at Stetson University College of Law. As part of the award, a contribution is made to the Hillsborough County Bar Association Foundation, which supports projects to assist the poor and disadvantaged with their legal needs and educates the public about the legal system.