

Snell & Wilmer

# News Release

## SNELL & WILMER PARTNER PATRICIA LEE REFO AWARDED MEDAL OF HONOR FROM THE WORLD JURIST ASSOCIATION

**PHOENIX (December 3, 2021)** – Snell & Wilmer is pleased to announce that [Patricia Lee Refo](#), partner in its Phoenix office and immediate past president of the American Bar Association, was awarded the prestigious Medal of Honor from the World Jurist Association for her work promoting the rule of law around the world. The ABA and Hillarie Bass, past ABA president from 2017 to 2018, were also recognized with this honor. Recipients were awarded today in Barranquilla, Colombia at the World Law Congress at a ceremony attended by King Felipe VI of Spain and the President of the Republic of Colombia Iván Duque Márquez.



Patricia Lee Refo

“The rule of law is the most powerful force on earth to ensure the essential human rights of men and women,” Refo said. “I am proud to accept this award on behalf of the ABA and all who defend the rule of law every day.”

The World Jurist Association is dedicated to pursuing a world ruled by law, not force. It was founded in 1963, in part through the work of the ABA, as a place where judges, lawyers and others work to strengthen the rule of law and its institutions. It is a nongovernmental organization with special consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Refo’s practice is concentrated in complex commercial litigation and internal investigations, with extensive experience in professional malpractice defense, commercial and business torts, financial institutions litigation, class actions and trade secret litigation. She chairs the firm’s Professional Liability Litigation group. Refo is a sought-after speaker at international, national, state and local continuing legal education conferences. A thought leader on litigation and trial issues, Refo has been named one of the most influential women lawyers in the country. She has served as Chair of the ABA House of Delegates and the ABA Section of Litigation. Refo served on the Arizona Supreme Court’s Advisory Committee on the Rules of Evidence, and is a former member of the Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of Evidence of the United States Judicial Conference.

### About Snell & Wilmer

Founded in 1938, Snell & Wilmer is a full-service business law firm with more than 450 attorneys practicing in 16 locations throughout the United States and in Mexico, including Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona; Los Angeles, Orange County and San Diego, California; Denver, Colorado; Washington, D.C.; Boise, Idaho; Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Portland, Oregon; Dallas, Texas; Salt Lake City, Utah; Seattle, Washington; and Los Cabos, Mexico. The firm represents clients ranging from large, publicly traded corporations to small businesses, individuals and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit [swlaw.com](http://swlaw.com).

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