



## Attorneys of the Year: Chuck Lundberg

By: Barbara L. Jones February 22, 2016



Chuck Lundberg

While still a law student, Chuck Lundberg wrote a law review article arguing that lawyers should have greater latitude to disclose client fraud, particularly when the client duped the lawyer into helping. It was a random assignment that sparked a career-long interest in professional ethics.

Another version of that article was published in 1983 in *Hennepin Lawyer* and came to the attention of attorney Bill Wernz, who took it to the Lawyers Board. The die was cast. The Supreme Court eventually amended Rule 1.6 along the lines proposed by Lundberg, and Wernz recommended Lundberg to the Hennepin District Ethics Committee.

He later became chair of the Lawyers Board and then president of the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers. He is now chair of the professional liability committee of the International Association of Defense Counsel.

Lundberg has been a friend of the court in many legal malpractice cases and also has been a friend of the court by creating a process whereby appellate lawyers could show their support for Court of Appeals judges or Supreme Court justices who were challenged for re-election. In every contested race for those seats since 2002 the appellate bar has published a Statement of Support for sitting judges.

A hard worker who apparently never sleeps, Lundberg is known for his early-morning emails. Former Judge Ken Jorgensen was director of the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility when Lundberg was the board chair. "I am an early riser and habitually get into the office at an early hour. I can't count the number of times that when I arrived, there were already emails in my Inbox sent by Chuck that same morning about Lawyers Board matters. I was a paid employee, he was the tireless volunteer," recalls Jorgensen.

Court of Appeals Chief Judge Edward Cleary also served as a director when Lundberg was board chair. "My experience as director in working with Chuck as chair was quite similar to Ken's description. He was a dedicated volunteer who took his position and responsibilities seriously. He earned my respect and our friendship was a bonus," Cleary said.

And, of course, this was all on top of a vigorous law practice. Lundberg recently retired from Bassford Remele after 35 years with the firm. He has opened up a consulting firm, which is good news to all the lawyers in the state who need his counsel.

For his part, Lundberg thanks the Bassford firm for supporting him in building his practice during the 35 years he worked there.