

Attorney F. Clayton Tyler receives Criminal Law Specialist Certification

Written by
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Minneapolis African American attorney receives prestigious recognition for skill and integrity in legal practice

The Minnesota State Bar Association announced the certification of F. Clayton Tyler as an MSBA Board Certified Criminal Law Specialist. This new Certification program is administered by the MSBA and approved by the State Board of Legal Certification.

The MSBA has been accredited as an independent professional organization for certifying attorneys as Criminal Law Specialists, Real Property Law Specialists, Civil Trial Law Specialists and Labor and Employment Law Specialists. This achievement has been earned by fewer than 3% of all licensed Minnesota attorneys.

The certified specialist designation is earned by leading attorneys who have completed a rigorous approval process, including an examination in the specialty area, peer review, and documented experience. The goal of MSBA Certified Legal Specialist programs is to assist the public by identifying attorneys who meet objective specialty area standards for reliable knowledge and experience.

"I'm extremely pleased to receive this certification," stated attorney F. Clayton Tyler. "I take great pride in providing my clients quality legal services at affordable prices. For more than 30 years, my legal practice has been dedicated to offering a professional, knowledgeable defense to people facing challenging legal circumstances. This independent certification is further validation of my steadfast commitment. Presently I am also honored to be the only African-American attorney who is an MSBA Certified Criminal Law Specialist."

With over 16,000 members, the MSBA is the state's largest voluntary organization of attorneys, providing continuing legal education and public service opportunities for lawyers, and assistance to the legal system. The MSBA has been accredited as an independent professional organization for certifying attorneys as Criminal Law Specialists since 2009.

Since 1987, the Minnesota State Bar Association has been approved as an independent

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professional organization for certifying lawyers as specialists. Through testing, peer review from lawyers and judges, and documenting experience, the MSBA Legal Specialist Certification Program measures a lawyer's expertise in the specialty area. Although many lawyers limit their practice areas, only lawyers who successfully complete the application process and continue to meet all program standards may call themselves MSBA Certified Legal Specialists.

Tyler received his bachelor's degree from Augsburg College, and his law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School. He has also completed two years toward a Masters in Communication at the University of Minnesota.

As past President of the Minnesota Black Lawyers Association, Tyler established a mentor program that allowed first and second year black law students to obtain jobs in legal firms and corporations. Tyler is actively involved in the Minnesota Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys, American Trial Lawyers Association, Minnesota State Bar Association, Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers, and Hennepin County Bar Association.

Tyler is also an active member in professional associations and community programs, including the Minneapolis Urban League Board of Directors, State Fund Mutual Board, Federal Public Defender Panel Attorney, Minnesota Minority Junior Golf Association (founder and former Chair), Minneapolis Public Housing Authority, Skylight Club, and Pilgrim Baptist Church.

For more information visit: www.fctyler.com or call 612-333-7309.