



Deborah Hays and David Edelstein Recognized by New Jersey Legal Awards

Press Releases

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Archer is proud to announce that partners **Deborah A. Hays** and **David F. Edelstein** have been recognized by the 2025 New Jersey Legal Awards presented by the New Jersey Law Journal. Deborah Hays, Chair of Archer's Board of Directors and head of the firm's **Business Counseling Group**, was named a finalist in the "Dealmakers" category, while David Edelstein, a member of the firm's **Environmental Law Group**, was selected as a winner in the "Unsung Heroes" category. A winner in the Dealmakers category will be announced at the New Jersey Legal Awards Dinner on October 30, 2025.

Deborah is a standout dealmaker whose career has been defined by complex, high-value transactions and long-term client partnerships. As lead counsel on a 2024 acquisition by a global automotive services company, the largest retail acquisition in the company's 100-year history, Debbie guided every stage of the transaction, aligning business, financial, and legal priorities with the company's strategic goals. Known for her practical insight and collaborative leadership, she has built decades-long client relationships and continues to shape Archer's culture of excellence and mentorship as the first woman to chair the firm's Board.

David exemplifies the spirit of the Unsung Hero award through his tireless pro bono service, mentorship, and leadership within the firm. As Chair of Archer's Pro Bono Committee, he has organized and participated in numerous volunteer initiatives, ranging from expungement and naturalization clinics to estate planning services for underserved communities. He also serves on the firm's Professional Development Committee, where he helped design and implement mentoring cohorts and helped launch the firm's formal mentoring program. In addition to his community and firm contributions, David maintains an active environmental law practice, advising clients on complex remediation and regulatory matters nationwide.

The New Jersey Legal Awards honor attorneys, law firms, and legal professionals across the state for excellence in practice, leadership, and service to the profession. Click [here](#) for methodology.

About Archer

For over 95 years, Archer & Greiner has been providing full-service litigation and transactional legal services to clients ranging from Fortune 100 corporations and small and middle-market companies, to closely-held and family-owned businesses. Our 175 attorneys span nine offices serving clients' interests across a wide range of industries. As a full-service firm, we draw on the strength of all our practices and multidisciplinary teams. This collaboration ensures that our clients receive complete, coordinated, and comprehensive counsel in every area of the law that impacts their business.

Related People



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