Brewer / Torbert
Public Service Award

In 2005, the Board of Directors of Alabama Appleseed established an award to be given annually to an individual who continues to make significant contributions to the state of Alabama through their civic and public service.

The award was named in honor of Alabama Appleseed founding board members Gov. Albert P. Brewer and Chief Justice C.C. Torbert, both of whom make significant contributions to the state, both personally and professionally.

Mission of Alabama Appleseed

Alabama Appleseed Center for Law & Justice, Inc. is a non-profit, non-partisan public interest legal advocacy organization whose mission is to work for systemic policy reforms that achieve justice and fairness for low-income and other vulnerable populations that have little, or no, voice in changing policies that impact their lives.

Alabama Appleseed was established in 1999 and incorporated as a 501(c)(3) organization in 2001. We are affiliated with the Appleseed Foundation located in Washington D.C., as one of its seventeen state advocacy centers. Each state center operates independently with its own board of directors and sets its own advocacy agenda.

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2015
Brewer/Torbert
Public Service Award

Honoring
Johnny D. Johns

Thursday, April 30, 2015
11:45 am–1:15 pm
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Johnny D. Johns
PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE STATE OF ALABAMA

Johnny Johns, President and Chief Executive Officer of Protective Life Corporation, is Alabama Appleseed’s 2015 Brewer/Torbert Public Service Award recipient. He is a very special Alabamian whose legal and corporate career spans almost four decades and whose dedicated public service has greatly benefited his home community of Birmingham and the State of Alabama.

Johnny was born in Gadsden and received his B.A. Degree from the University of Alabama in 1974. He then attended the Harvard Law School and the Harvard Business School receiving both a J.D. and M.B.A. degrees in 1978. Prior to joining Protective Life in 1993 as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, he was one of the founding members of the law firm Maynard Cooper and Gale and served as General Counsel of Sonat, Inc., a diversified energy company.

Throughout his career, Johnny has been actively engaged in community, business and philanthropic service. In recognition of this service to the state, Johnny was inducted into the Alabama Academy of Honor in 2013. Johnny is a great leader in any endeavor he undertakes, which have been many. He has served as Chairman of the Business Council of Alabama, the McWane Science Center, the Greater Alabama Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Innovation Depot, and most recently the Birmingham Business Alliance. He has served on the boards of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, the Birmingham Museum of Art and on the Board of Advisors of the Center for Ethics and Social Responsibility at the University of Alabama. Johnny currently serves on numerous corporate boards, including Alabama Power, Regions Financial, and Genuine Parts Corporation.

As an alumni of the University of Alabama, he has given back to the University in many ways. He currently is a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama System. He also serves on the University of Alabama President’s Cabinet and on the University of Alabama at Birmingham’s Leadership Cabinet.

Johnny Johns has devoted a substantial amount of his time, energy, talents and experience to public service with a broad spectrum of community, educational, philanthropic, arts, and business organizations and has thereby greatly improved and enhanced the common good for all who call Alabama home. On this the 10th Year of the Brewer/Torbert Public Service Award Alabama Appleseed feels privileged and honored to be able to present this Award to such an outstanding Alabamian.

Luncheon Program

Invocation
Pastor Arthur Price, Jr. 16th Street Baptist Church

Welcoming Remarks & Sponsor Recognition
Rowena Frazer  Board Chair, Alabama Appleseed

Appleseed Today
John Pickens, Executive Director, Alabama Appleseed

10th Annual Brewer/Torbert Award
Nick Gaede, Founding Board Member

2015 Brewer/Torbert Public Service Award Presentation

Opening Remarks
Ann Florie, Event Co-Chair

Reflections about Johnny D. Johns
John J. McMahon, Jr., Ligon Industries, LLC

Award Presentation
Rowena Frazer and Ann Florie

Remarks by Honoree
Johnny D. Johns

Closing Remarks
Rowena Frazer, Board Chair, Alabama Appleseed