

THE 2016 ANNUAL
OKLAHOMA CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN CRIMINAL DEFENSE

Each year your peers in the practice of criminal defense select three of their own to receive the most prestigious awards for excellence in criminal defense achievements in Oklahoma. These awards are the only awards that are nominated and selected by attorneys that practice criminal defense in Oklahoma. The awards are as follows:

The Clarence Darrow Award

Clarence Darrow was born in Ohio in 1857. After being admitted to the bar in 1878, he became a small-town lawyer for nine years.

During WWI he defended anti-war activists and was critical of The Espionage Act that was used to stifle anti-war activities. You need only mention the names of his famous cases to realize his impact on criminal defense; the *Scopes Monkey Trial* and the *Leopold-Loeb Murder Trials*. A 1936 FBI memo to Clyde Tolson, aide-de-camp to J. Edgar Hoover, gave Mr. Hoover some quotes that Clarence Darrow had made in an article entitled Attorney for the Defendant. It was suggested that Mr. Hoover could use these quotes in speeches to point out how unscrupulous criminal lawyers stimulate disrespect for law and influence crime conditions.

The award recognizes the efforts of an individual who has, during the year, exemplified the zealous criminal defense advocacy that befits the namesake of the award "Clarence Darrow". It is in the deeds and spirit of Clarence Darrow that this award is given each year for the zealous criminal defense advocacy by an individual attorney. The only qualification requirement is that the event(s) upon which the nomination is based must have taken place during the current year.

The Lord Thomas Erskine Award

Lord Erskine was a Scotsman, the third son of the 10th Earl of Buchan, educated at Edinburgh and Cambridge and called to the bar in 1778. He was a strong advocate and defender of popular liberties and constitutional rights. His defense of Thomas Paine cost him his post of attorney general to the Prince of Wales. The award is given to honor a member of the criminal defense bar who has over the years steadfastly placed the preservation of personal liberties over his or her own personal gain or reputation. The award is a cumulative year award and is not limited to any particular activities in any given year.

**The Thurgood Marshall Appellate
Advocacy Award**

Thurgood Marshall, the grandson of a slave, was born in 1908 in Maryland. In 1930, he was denied admission to the University of Maryland Law School due to the fact that he was black. This event was to direct his future professional life.

In 1934, he began his association with the NAACP and dismantled school segregation in his 1954 victory of *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka*. He later desegregated graduate schools with his victory in *McLaurin vs. Oklahoma State Regents*. As a Justice for the Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit, he made 112 rulings that were all upheld before the United States Supreme Court. As Solicitor General for the United States, he won 14 of 19 cases argued before the United States Supreme Court. In 1967, Thurgood Marshall was the first African American appointed to the United States Supreme Court. He was often the lone voice of dissent against the death penalty and always spoke for voiceless Americans in his opinions. He died in 1993.

The only qualification for the awards is that the nominee must be the appellate attorney of record in the decision that formed the basis of the nomination. However, there is no requirement that the decision must have occurred within the current year.

Please submit written nominations and the reasons therefore to:

OCDLA
P.O. Box 2272
Oklahoma City, OK 73101
Fax (405) 239-2595
BDP@for-the-defense.com

The deadline is June 3, 2016. The awards will be announced prior to the Patrick Williams CDI and awarded at the OCDLA Annual Meeting on June 23, 2016 at The Hard Rock Casino in Catoosa, OK.

You do not have to be a member of OCDLA to nominate an individual.

Oklahoma Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

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Past Award Winners

The Clarence Darrow Award

Tony Coleman, 2015	Richard & Sharisse O'Carroll 2014	Winston H. Connor II, 2013	
Jarrold Stevenson, 2012	Jackie Ford, 2011	Mark Kane, 2010	Cindy Viol, 2009
Richard Anderson, 2008	Paul "Tony" Lacy, 2006	Jack Dempsey Pointer, 2005	W. Creekmore Wallace III, 2004
Kevin D. Adams, 2003	Tamara Spradlin, 2002	Tim Wilson, 2001	R. Scott Adams, 2000
James H. Kemp, Jr., 1999	Albert J. Hoch, Jr., 1998	David T. McKenzie, 1997	Robert A. Ravitz, 1996
John W. Coyle, III, 1995	John Barry Albert, 1994	Barry Albert, 1993	Ronald Worthen, 1992
Gary Peterson, 1991	C. Merle Gile, 1990	David Autry, 1989	Irven R. Box, 1988
Mandy Welch, 1987	Brian T. Hermanson, 1986	Duane A. Woodliff, 1985	D.C. Thomas, 1984
Patrick A. Williams, 1983	Bill Heskett, 1982		

The Lord Thomas Erskine Award

Terry J. Hull, 2015	J.W. Coyle III, 2014	2013 Not Awarded
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Pete Silva, Jr., 2012	Robert Manchester III, 2011	Cindy Foley, 2010	Chris Eluberg, 2009
Cheryl Ramsey, 2008	Jack Dempsey Pointer, 2006	Paul Brunton, 2005	Garvin Issacs, 2004
Jack Gordon, Jr., 2003	Jim Rowan, 2002	<i>not awarded</i> , 2001	Mack K. Martin, 2000
Barry Albert, 1999	<i>not awarded</i> , 1998	Patrick Williams, 1997	<i>not awarded</i> , 1996
D.C. Thomas, 1995	Thomas Dee Frasier, 1994	Don Ed Payne, 1993	Honorable Ed Parks, 1992
<i>not awarded</i> , 1991	<i>not awarded</i> , 1990	<i>not awarded</i> , 1989	W. Creekmore Wallace III, 1988
Stephen Jones, 1987	T. Hurley Jordan, Jr. 1986	<i>not awarded</i> , 1985	Harold J. Singer, 1984
<i>not awarded</i> , 1983	<i>not awarded</i> , 1982		

The Thurgood Marshall Appellate Award

Thomas Purcell, 2015	Not Awarded, 2014	John M. Dunn, 2013	2012 Not Awarded
William H. Luker, 2011	Stuart Southerland, 2010	Kimberly D. Heinz, 2009	Barry Derryberry, 2008
Paula Alfred, 2007	Katrina Conrad-Legler, 2007	Andrea Digilio-Miller, 2006	Gloyd McCoy, 2006
Gail Gunning, 2005	Mark Hendricksen, 2004	Jack Fisher, 2003	Evans Chambers, 2002
Michael R. Wilds, 2002	Mark Hendricksen, 2001	Randy Bauman, 2001	Carolyn Merritt, 2000
Vicki Werneke, 2000			

The Richard F. McDivitt Founder's Award

D.C. Thomas, 2003 Richard F. McDivitt, 1995

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