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Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (LACDL) recognizes James Looney with the 2014 Justice Albert Tate, Jr. Award

Baton Rouge, La. (December 23, 2014) - The Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (LACDL) honored James Looney, Covington, La., with the 2014 Justice Albert Tate, Jr. Award during the 29th Annual Justice Albert Tate, Jr. Awards Banquet on December 12, 2014 at the Roosevelt Hotel, located at 123 Baronne St., New Orleans, La.

Looney has served as the executive director of the Louisiana Appellate Project (LAP) since 1996. He is an active member of LACDL, which he served on the board of directors from 1999 to 2007, and is a member of several organizations including the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, American Council of Chief Defenders and National Association of Public Defenders. Prior to establishing LAP, Looney was assistant public defender for the 22nd Judicial District Court in St. Tammany and Washington Parishes handling capital cases and appeals. During his time, there was only one capital verdict which was reversed on first level direct appeal.

“For years he has established programs that have benefitted all criminal defense lawyers in the state of Louisiana as well as established the LAP and assisted numerous public defenders in their endeavors,” said LACDL Immediate Past President Richard Goorley. “[Looney has a] long history of public defense work in the trial and appellate courtroom. He merits recognition for the benefits that he has given all criminal defense attorneys.”

Established in 1986, this award is named in honor of the late Justice Albert Tate, Jr., who served on the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Louisiana State Supreme Court. The award is presented for outstanding contributions to the Louisiana system of criminal justice and dedication to constitutional principles. The award is designed to honor individuals for dedication to, or in defense of, those constitutional principles for which Justice Tate stood. This is LACDL’s most prestigious award.

To learn more about the Justice Albert Tate, Jr. Awards Banquet and other award recipients, please visit www.lacdl.org/tatebanquet. To learn more about LACDL awards, please visit www.lacdl.org/lacdlawards.

About LACDL

LACDL was formed by a group of criminal defense lawyers in 1985. Almost three decades later and with more than 600 members throughout Louisiana, it remains a vital cornerstone of support. Membership in LACDL means joining your fellow defenders in the struggle for liberty, individual rights, the basic principle of due process and the fundamental right to a fair trial. LACDL affords its members the opportunity to network with peers who share in the passion to protect individual rights and those of the accused. For more information, please visit www.lacdl.org, email lacdl@tاتمangroup.com, or call the LACDL office at (225)767-7640.

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