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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (LACDL) hosts the 34th Annual Justice Albert Tate, Jr. Awards Banquet

Baton Rouge, La. (December 10, 2019) - The Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (LACDL) hosted the 34th Annual Justice Albert Tate, Jr. Awards Banquet on Friday, December 6, 2019. The event was held at the Bourbon Orleans Hotel in New Orleans at 6:30 p.m. LACDL recognized individuals who are champions in criminal defense law and hosted the Justice Albert Tate, Jr. Awards Banquet to honor these individuals.

G. Ben Cohen was awarded the Justice Albert Tate Jr. Award. 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 is dedicated 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.

Lewis O. Unglesby was awarded the Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award. This award is named for recognition of outstanding work on behalf of Criminal Justice in an official position. It honors Judges, legislatures and others.

Lester J. Gauthier, Jr. was awarded the Criminal Justice Act Panel Attorney Award. This award was presented to a Criminal Justice Act panel attorney who demonstrated extraordinary commitment, professionalism and achievement in the appointed representation of clients in the federal courts of Louisiana.

Letty DiGiulio was awarded the Sam Dalton Capital Defense Award because of their dedication to Capital Defense Advocacy in Louisiana. This person has spent their career advocating for Criminal Justice and is known and respected by those in the Criminal Defense Profession.

Rachel Gassert was awarded the Professor Lucy McGough Juvenile Justice Award for her involvement with juvenile justice issues that affect our justice systems daily. Juvenile justice has been elevated to its rightful place as an equal part of the criminal justice system by the hard work and dedication of someone like Rachel.

Meghan Garvey was awarded the LACDL President's Award. This award was created to honor an individual or a group of individuals who provided guidance, support and dedication to LACDL during the president's term.

Suchitra Satpathi received the LACDL President's Award of Appreciation. This award was created to honor an individual or a group of individuals that the president felt displayed devotion and service to the justice system, setting an example for others to follow.

Deirdre Fuller was awarded the Trustees of Freedom Gideon Award. This award is in recognition of outstanding contributions to the Right to Counsel, including Legislative work, work "in the trenches", and a concern for clients and Criminal Justice in the last year or more.

Michael Courteau was awarded the Trustees of Freedom Lifetime Service Award. This award is in recognition of outstanding accomplishments over a lifetime of service on behalf of the law.

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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 for the criminal defense bar. 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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