



Wisconsin State Public Defender

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State Public Defender to Receive Award for Work With Problem-Solving Courts

Agency Achievements Recognized by Wisconsin Association of Treatment Court Professionals

(Madison) The State Public Defender's Office will receive the *Jack Aulik Award* from the Wisconsin Association of Treatment Court Professionals (WATCP) in recognition of the agency's work with problem-solving courts.

On behalf of the WATCP Board, La Crosse County Judge Elliott Levine will present the award to State Public Defender Kelli Thompson. The ceremony will take place at Noon on April 11, 2013 during WATCP's annual conference in Appleton, Wisconsin.

State Public Defender Thompson stated, "I am very pleased to accept the Jack Aulik Award on behalf of our agency staff who serve on treatment-court teams across Wisconsin. Agency staff see the positive impact that problem-solving courts have on the lives of our clients by providing opportunities to overcome addictions and other barriers."

WATCP is a professional organization representing the interests of Wisconsin's treatment courts. WATCP's multidisciplinary membership includes judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, court administrators, treatment providers, probation officers, social service caseworkers, and other stakeholders in the field of treatment courts. WATCP's core mission is to reduce substance abuse, crime and recidivism by promoting and advocating for the establishment and funding of treatment courts and by providing for collection and dissemination of information, technical assistance and mutual support to association members.

"The agency believes in the work and mission of WATCP, and I am pleased that a number of our staff have played a leadership role by serving on the Board of WATCP," added Thompson.

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