



# Wisconsin State Public Defender

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\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
ISSUED: November 11, 2015  
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## **SPD Announces 2015 Award Recipients**

### **Walworth County Jail Literacy Program, Tony Streveler, Assistant State Public Defender Robert Peterson, & the SPD's Milwaukee Trial Office to be Recognized**

(Madison) The State Public Defender Board and the State Public Defender's Office (SPD) will honor its 2015 award recipients during a ceremony on November 12 at the SPD's annual conference.

The Public Defender Board will present its *2015 Eisenberg Award* to both the Walworth County Jail Literacy Program and former Department of Corrections' research director Tony Streveler in recognition of their respective positive impacts on our criminal justice system. The Walworth County Jail Literacy Program has been in operation since 2008 and helps inmates prepare for their General Educational Development certificate or for their High School Equivalency Diploma exam. The program, which has operated at full capacity since its start, ultimately helps inmates of Walworth County prepare not only for future employment, but also to become contributing and productive members of the community.

Tony Streveler, the former Director of Research and Policy at the Department of Corrections, played a key role in the state's AIM program (Assess, Inform, Measure) that helps counties utilize risk evaluations to match defendants with community-based programs, the Results First cost-benefit analysis program, and the state's OARS program (Opening Avenues to Reentry Success) that helps offenders with mental health issues as they prepare for their transition from prison into the community.

"The Public Defender Board is pleased to highlight the work of the Walworth County Jail Literacy Program and Tony Streveler with this year's Eisenberg Award. Both recipients have had an impact on their respective areas: the Jail Literacy Program on the inmates and communities of Walworth County and Tony Streveler on statewide policy," noted Public Defender Board Chair Daniel Berkos.

Staff attorney Robert Peterson and the agency's Milwaukee Trial Office will also be

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honored. Attorney Peterson will receive the SPD's *2015 Chiarkas Award* in recognition of his leadership efforts in further developing and managing the agency's Chapter 980 practice group. The staff of the Milwaukee Trial Office will receive the agency's *2015 Rubin Society Award* in recognition of the office's contributions to community outreach, over-and-above their full workload.

Kelli Thompson, Wisconsin State Public Defender, added, "I congratulate Bob Peterson for his leadership in further developing the SPD's Chapter 980 practice group and the staff of our Milwaukee Trial Office for connecting with community members and offering educational opportunities."

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