



Wisconsin State Public Defender

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SPD Announces 2017 Award Recipients

David Riemer and Wraparound Milwaukee to Receive SPD Board Awards

Travis Schwantes & the SPD's Green Bay Region to Receive Agency Staff Awards

(Madison) The State Public Defender Board and the State Public Defender's Office (SPD) will honor its 2017 award recipients during a ceremony today, November 16, at the SPD's annual training conference in Milwaukee.

The Board will present its *2017 Eisenberg Award* to both David Riemer and Wraparound Milwaukee. As legal counsel to then-Governor Patrick Lucey, David Riemer led the writing of the statute that ultimately created the SPD in the late 1970s. Wraparound Milwaukee provides a comprehensive community-based care model for children with emotional, behavioral, and mental health needs.

Public Defender Board Chair Daniel Berkos stated, "We are pleased to recognize the work of Wraparound Milwaukee, which reaches well beyond the children it serves and also helps entire families and communities. And David's groundbreaking work 40 years ago paved the way for Wisconsin's leading indigent defense program."

Staff attorney Travis Schwantes and the agency's Green Bay Region will also be honored. Attorney Schwantes was selected to receive the SPD's *2017 Chiarkas Award* in recognition of his leadership efforts. Staff of the agency's Green Bay Region, comprising the Appleton, Green Bay, Peshtigo, and Shawano Offices, will receive the agency's *2017 Rubin Society Award* in recognition of the region's community outreach.

Wisconsin State Public Defender Kelli Thompson, added, "I congratulate both Travis and the staff of our Green Bay Region for their recognition. Travis has built a strong reputation for his compassionate and expert legal representation. The outreach by the Green Bay staff has a direct impact on our clients and the work of the agency by forming important connections with the community."

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