



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**ACADEMY OF TRIAL LAWYERS ANNOUNCES AWARDS
FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE**
Judges, Lawyers and Clients Among Those Honored

RALEIGH – The North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers today announced the winners of a prestigious slate of awards in recognition of those who have demonstrated inspired commitment to the justice system and protecting individuals' rights. The awards will be presented Sunday, June 11 at a ceremony held in Sunset Beach as part of the Academy's annual convention.

"It is my great honor to present these awards to a group of public servants who have worked tirelessly to better our communities and to protect our legal rights," said Academy CEO Dick Taylor. "They embody the best of our profession and make us proud."

Nearly 4,000 Academy members across the state of North Carolina voted to select this year's award recipients. These are the highest honors the Academy bestows to legal professionals and patients' rights advocates.

Since it was founded over 40 years ago, the Academy has worked to ensure that all North Carolinians can get justice in the courtroom, whether it means representing those injured by the negligence of others or protecting the rights of the accused. The Academy provides lawyers with the information and professional assistance they need to serve clients successfully and help preserve a fair and accessible justice system.

The following are this year's award recipients:

Outstanding Trial Judge Awards

Awarded to judges that demonstrate a commitment to justice as well as a fair and knowledgeable handling of the law.

* Superior Court Judge Russell Lanier, Jr.
Duplin County

* District Court Judge Richard G. Chaney
Durham County

Kellie Crabtree Award

Named for a North Carolina woman who became a passionate advocate for patients' rights after suffering severe injuries in an automobile accident. Awarded to a client who, like Crabtree, had the courage to publicly share his/her story to advocate on behalf of all injured persons and the attorney that represents the case.

* Joan Faulkner & Dr. John Faulkner
Raleigh

* Attorney Burton Craige
Patterson Harkavy
Raleigh

Thurgood Marshall Award

Awarded in recognition of extraordinary and selfless service to the people of North Carolina in keeping with the legacy of Justice Thurgood Marshall.

* Kenneth J. "Ken" Rose
Center for Death Penalty
Durham

Lifetime Contribution Award

Awarded to honor a lifetime of outstanding contributions to the Academy and its mission.

* Harold "Hal" Greeson
Greeson Law Offices
Greensboro

Ebbie Awards:

Awarded to individuals selected by the President for exceptional service and commitment to the Academy in keeping with Ebbie Bailey's continued legacy.

* Allen Bailey (Ebbie Bailey to receive)
President Emeritus

* Mona Lisa Wallace
Wallace & Graham
Salisbury

* Lori Rosemond
Maxwell, Freeman & Bowman
Durham

* Carlos Mahoney
Glenn, Mills & Fisher
Durham