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CONTACT: Randy Kraft 608-267-3587

** * PRESS RELEASE * **

Four Assistant State Public Defenders to be Honored as Up and Coming Lawyers

(Madison) Four attorneys with the Wisconsin State Public Defender’s Office (SPD) will be honored tonight as 2017 Up and Coming Lawyers. The Up and Coming Lawyer award, sponsored by the Wisconsin Law Journal, recognizes attorneys who “have demonstrated leadership, contributed to their community and successfully achieved legal outcomes early in their career.”

The SPD attorneys being honored are: Matt Giesfeldt - Madison Trial; Kaitlin Lamb - Milwaukee Appellate; Ryan Reid - Green Bay; & Nadya Perez-Reyes - Milwaukee Juvenile/Mental Health.

Matt Giesfeldt has specialized in juvenile and mental health cases since starting with the agency in 2015. He has built a strong reputation for being a fierce advocate for his clients. Matt is also an expert in education law and volunteers with the Student Expulsion and Prevention Project (StEPP).

In her 6 years as a lawyer, Kaitlin Lamb has become well-known to the Wisconsin Supreme Court (WSC) observers. She has kept an extraordinary pace of discovering issues worthy of petitions for review: she prepared 6 petitions that the WSC accepted for review in the last 3 terms (and then argued the cases).

Since being admitted to practice law in Wisconsin in 2011, Ryan Reid has been a compassionate advocate and fearless litigator. He handles the most difficult cases, including termination of parental rights (TPR) cases. Ryan is also helping to develop an OWI Treatment Court in Brown County.

Nadya Perez-Reyes started with the agency in 2012 and is known for litigating complex cases, including proceedings involving termination of parental rights. She often represents the agency’s most vulnerable clients. In addition, Nadya has volunteered with Milwaukee’s driver’s license recovery program.

State Public Defender Kelli Thompson stated, “I congratulate Matt, Kaitlin, Ryan, and Nadya on their well-deserved honors. They are representative of the high skill level of our young attorneys working around the state in our trial and appellate courts on behalf of their clients.”

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