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5 State Public Defender Attorneys Named 2018 Leaders In The Law

SPD Honorees Represent Madison, Milwaukee, and Wausau

(Madison) Five attorneys with the State Public Defender (SPD) will be honored tonight in Milwaukee as 2018 Leaders in the Law. The recognition, sponsored by the Wisconsin Law Journal, spotlights the top members of the state’s legal community.

The following SPD attorneys are the award recipients:

- Benjamin Gonring - Local Attorney Manager, Madison Trial;
- Charles Glynn - Assistant State Public Defender, Madison Trial;
- Joseph Smith, Jr. - Assistant State Public Defender, Milwaukee Juvenile & Mental Health;
- Richard Jones - Assistant State Public Defender, Madison Trial; and
- Suzanne O’Neill - Regional Attorney Manager, Stevens Point Region.

Benjamin Gonring and Joseph Smith, Jr. have built strong reputations for their respective skilled and compassionate advocacy on behalf of their juvenile clients. Charles Glynn and Richard Jones are known for taking high-profile cases throughout the state, with a special emphasis on sexually violent persons cases. Suzanne O’Neill provides leadership and management for 4 SPD offices serving a total of 13 Wisconsin counties.

“I congratulate each of the 5 staff of the agency who will be recognized tonight,” said State Public Defender Kelli Thompson. “They all are deserving recipients of the recognition. Representing both our largest urban centers and counties in northern Wisconsin and taking cases that range from juvenile proceedings to homicide cases, they exemplify the dedicated staff employed by this agency.”