

Washington  
Association of  
Criminal Defense  
Lawyers



# *Awards Ceremony*



22nd Annual Conference  
June 12, 2009  
Campbell's Resort on Lake Chelan

# ***Program***

## **Opening remarks**

*Bill A. Bowman, Immediate Past President*

## **Recognition of Outgoing Board Members**

*Presented by Bill A. Bowman and Teresa Mathis*

## **Certificates of Appreciation**

*Presented by Bill A. Bowman and Teresa Mathis*

## **Champion of Justice Award**

*Presented by Jeff Robinson to James Bible, Jr.*

## **President's Award**

*Presented by Sheryl Gordon McCloud to Sherilyn Peterson*

## **William O. Douglas Award**

*Presented by John Wolfe to James E. Lobsenz*

*Presented by Peter Mair to Peter A. Camiel*

## **President's Appreciation**

*Presented by Bob Quillian to Bill A. Bowman*

## **Closing comments**

*Bill A. Bowman*

## ***Outgoing Board Members***

*Thank you for your dedication!*

Kevin J. Curtis, The Hon. Jeanette Dalton (WACDL Board term ended November 2008), Carol Huneke, Ulvar Klein, The Hon. Mary Logan (WACDL Board term ended January 2008) and Mark W. Prothero

## ***Certificates of Appreciation***

*In recognition of and appreciation for distinguished service to the organization and its goals.*

Bob Quillian

Kim Gordon

Amy Muth

Daron Morris

Mark Muenster

Lenell Nussbaum

Wade Samuelson

# ***Champion of Justice Award***

*Recognizing individuals who — through legislative, judicial, journalistic, or humanitarian pursuits — have staunchly preserved or defended the constitutional rights of Washington residents and endeavored to ensure justice and due process for those accused of crimes.*

## **James Bible, Jr.**

James Bible, Jr. is the recipient of the 2009 Champion of Justice Award for his community organizing and related work, on behalf of Gerald Hankerson, who was granted clemency by Governor Gregoire this year.

Hankerson, who was convicted of aggravated murder and sentenced to life in prison without possibility of parole in 1987 while still a teenager, matured into a responsible adult behind bars, taking a strong role in organizing and leading prison groups and reaching out to others at risk. His efforts against racism and other forms of dissension within the prison drew the attention of community leaders, including the local NAACP.

Although the clemency board voted to grant Mr. Hankerson clemency in June of 2006, Governor Christine Gregoire later denied his application, recommending he reapply down the road.

“I would have waited those few years and given it another try, since I was relying on lawyering,” says attorney Sheryl Gordon McCloud, who represented Hankerson in his initial clemency proceedings. “But Mr. Bible was just starting.”

With formal legal avenues seemingly exhausted, James and the NAACP took over with community organizing and building grassroots support.

Hankerson’s case was taken up by churches and other groups, in no small part due to James and the NAACP. James forged ties with the King County prosecutor, Dan Satterburg. He used his gifts of persuasion in meeting with Governor Gregoire.

James’s efforts finally proved fruitful. Satterburg changed his position from opposing to supporting Hankerson’s clemency,

and Governor Gregoire soon changed her position too. Gerald Hankerson was released from prison April 9.

*James Bible, Jr. received his B.A. from Western Washington University (1996) where he later completed work toward an M.A. in Sociology. He worked for five years as a juvenile counselor in a detention center and then attended and graduated from the Seattle University School of Law (2003). He has served as president of the King County Chapter of the NAACP since 2007.*

## **Past Recipients**

- 2001 Justice Richard B. Sanders
- 2002 Senator Adam Kline
- 2003 Lisa Daugaard
- 2004 Jennifer Davis
- 2005 Ken Armstrong
- 2006 Jon Ostlund
- 2007 Joanne I. Moore
- 2008 Teresa Mathis

# ***President's Award***

*Presented in recognition of distinguished service to the criminal defense bar (formerly "Distinguished Service Award").*

## **Sherilyn Peterson**

Sherilyn Peterson is the recipient of a 2009 President's Award, for her work in challenging the constitutionality of Washington's lethal injection policy. Sherilyn headed up a team of attorneys and staff from the Perkins Coie law firm which stepped forward on a pro bono basis to help stop the execution of Darold Stenson.

In September 2008 they filed a civil complaint in Thurston County Superior Court that challenged the constitutionality of how lethal injection is carried out in Washington. They have been litigating the matter ever since.

This has amounted to a commitment of well over 3000 hours of attorney and staff time on the case to date, starting with researching and preparing a complaint in an area that was totally new to them, requiring learning the science and the law, and battling for stays of execution at almost all levels of the state and federal court system. The case has been heavily fought by the State which filed countless motions to dismiss, summary judgment motions, motions to quash depositions, motions to strike claims, and a motion to reconsider the denial of its summary judgment motion, followed by a motion for discretionary review to the Washington Supreme Court on the same grounds. Perkins Coie went through many rounds of written discovery, depositions and discovery motions.

In March, after the Court granted plaintiff's motion to require the DOC to provide evidence of the qualifications and training of its four member execution team, the team instead resigned. With no team in place the State has no ability at present to carry out an execution.

A decision from the Superior Court is expected the first week in June. Regardless of the outcome, both sides have made it clear that there will be an appeal with both sides asking that the matter be heard by the Washington Supreme Court.

*Sherilyn Peterson received her B.A. from Northwestern University (1977), and law degree from Northwestern University*

*School of Law (1980), were she also served on the Northwestern University Law Review Editorial Board. She held a clerkship on the US. Court of Appeals on the Seventh Circuit (1980-81). Ms. Peterson is a partner at Perkins Coie. She focuses her practice on trial and appellate civil litigation, product liability, administrative law and family law.*

## **Past Recipients**

1988	Richard Cease, Tony Savage
1990	None
1991	Peter Offenbecher, Jon Ostlund
1992	Murray Guterson
1993	John W. Wolfe, Robert Wayne
1994	Karen Klein, Sheryl Gordon McCloud, Mark Muenster
1995	Rick Troberman, Miriam Schwartz, Pat Stiley
1996	Roger Hunko, Judy Clarke
1997	Carole Grayson, Charles Dorn, Anna-Mari Sarkanen
1998	Garth Dano, Kathy Lyon, Lori Gustavson
1999	Elizabeth Calvin, Robert Mahler, Jacqueline McMurtrie
2000	Victor Lara, Rachel Levy, Jay Stansell
2001	Dan Fessler, Neil Fox, Jon Komorowski
2002	John Rodgers, Don Westerman, David Zuckerman
2003	Dutch Wetzel
2004	Eileen Farley, Carol Huneke, John Strait
2005	Suzanne Elliott, Ron Ness, Jackie Walsh
2006	Donna Tucker & Cherilyn Church, James Egan
2007	Jeff Ellis, Michael Iaria
2008	Ted Vosk

# ***William O. Douglas Award***

*The highest award presented by the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; presented in recognition of extraordinary courage and commitment in the practice of criminal law.*

## **Peter A. Camiel**

In 25 years of practicing law, Peter Camiel has had well over 100 jury trials involving charges including homicide, felony and misdemeanor assaults, fraud, drug crimes, sex offenses, RICO, financial crimes and more. Most notably, Mr. Camiel has challenged the convictions for several serious crimes and successfully proved his clients' innocence.

He has worked relentlessly with Centurion Ministries, an organization that has freed more than 40 wrongfully convicted men and women from prison and death row without DNA evidence to buttress their cases. March 2008 saw the release of Peter's and Centurion's client Willie Green, who had already served more than 25 years of a life sentence for murder.

Peter has won dismissals and acquittals in many other serious cases in state and federal courts, including the 2007 dismissal of the most serious charges against the Hell's Angels president in a RICO/murder trial, the 2005 dismissal of a 12-count indictment alleging various dealing and manufacturing of firearms charges, the 2005 commutation of a client's sentence who had been wrongfully convicted of child rape and a 2004 murder case in Everett, Washington in which his client was acquitted of first degree murder, second degree murder, felony murder, attempted second degree murder and manslaughter in the first and second degrees. The jury in that case also awarded self-defense reimbursement of costs and attorney fees to his client.

He has served as co-counsel with WACDL member Sheryl Gordon McCloud in post conviction proceedings on two death penalty cases – of which both sentences were vacated. According to Sheryl, "Peter has a long history of unsung heroism."

*Peter received a B.A. from Washington State University. He received his J.D. from the University of Puget Sound School of Law, now Seattle University School of Law (1982). Following law school, he joined Peter Mair to form a practice of criminal defense in federal and state courts.*

## **James E. Lobsenz**

Since 1982, attorney Jim Lobsenz has handled countless criminal cases – including some of Washington’s most controversial criminal trials, appeals and post-conviction cases. He has also defended those in the armed services.

Some of his notable clients include: Charles Campbell, Kwan Fai (Willie) Mak, Blake Pirtle, Dayva Cross, Mary K. Letourneau, Major Margaret Witt, Rep. Jim West, Darrell Cloud, Steven Farmer, and Washington State Militia leader John Pitner.

Jim has handled some of Washington State’s most challenging death penalty appeals and post-convictions cases, perhaps best known for his defense of Charles Campbell in *Campbell v. Wood*, the seminal case where the Ninth Circuit decided by a 6-5 vote that lethal injection is not cruel and unusual punishment.

Although Mr. Campbell’s claim did not garner a majority in that case, it was Jim’s legal claims that ultimately helped to pave the way for all sorts of future claims under the Eighth Amendment – including the challenges to the electric chair, gas chamber, and lethal injection methods.

Among the many military personnel James has represented is Major Margaret Witt, an Air Force officer who was discharged for being a lesbian. She brought a challenge to the “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell” policy for violating her rights of liberty and equal protection. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in her favor last year.

*Jim received a B.A. from Stanford University (1974), an M.A. from Stanford (1975) and a law degree from UC Berkley (1978). He worked as a staff attorney for the Washington Appellate Defender Association (1983-1985). Thereafter, he entered a partnership with attorney John Wolfe (1985-1989) and has since worked in the firm of Carney Badley Spellman. Jim also serves as an Adjunct Professor of Law at the Seattle University School of Law, where he teaches the First Amendment class.*

## **Past Recipients**

1988	Kathryn Lund Ross
1990	Richard Cease
1991	Mark Vovos
1992	Tim Ford
1993	Tom Hillier, Bob Boruchowitz
1994	Judy Mandel
1995	David Allen
1996	Mike Frost
1997	John Midgley
1998	Tony Savage
1999	J. Adam Moore
2000	Lenell Nussbaum
2001	Richard Hansen
2002	Simmie A. Baer
2003	Rita Griffith & Steve Hayne
2004	Jeffery Robinson
2005	Jeff Fisher
2006	Dan Dubitzky & Roger Hunko
2007	Todd Maybrown
2008	Sheryl Gordon McCloud



