

Kevin J. Curtis  
President

Teresa Mathis  
Executive Director

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For more information, contact:  
Amy Hirota, 206-623-1302 or [amy@wacdl.org](mailto:amy@wacdl.org)

## 2007 WACDL Awards

The Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers presented a Champion of Justice Award, recognizing an individual 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 crime, on June 8 at the association's annual conference at Campbell's Resort in Chelan to Joanne I. Moore, the director of the Washington State Office of Public Defense, for her passion and diligence in creating and securing funding for the Parents' Representation pilot program.

Joanne directs the Washington State Office of Public Defense; the agency's legislative mandate is to "implement the constitutional guarantee of counsel" and to deliver indigent appellate services funded by Washington State.

In 1999, Joanne carried out a Washington State OPD study of dependency and termination defense in Washington's juvenile courts, finding that many parents suffer from inadequate representation. In 2000, she created a new practice model for enhanced representation, the Parents Representation Program, and obtained state funding to institute a pilot program to demonstrate its effectiveness. After overcoming serious systemic hurdles over the next five years, including yearly refunding struggles and, in 2003, a gubernatorial veto, Joanne, along with other justice group advocates, persuaded the 2005 Legislature to fund the incremental expansion of the program statewide; this year, it will cover 70% of the state.

In recent years, under Joanne's direction, Washington State OPD underwent major appellate program changes to ensure quality representation statewide, and created a trial level program to administer RCW 10.101 state public defense improvement funds. She personally conducts the agency's legislative advocacy.

*Joanne received her BA and JD degrees from the University of California. Prior to joining Washington State OPD in 1998, she was a legal services attorney and, in 1989, created the state's Court Interpreter Certification Program at AOC. Her publications include the book *Immigrants in Courts* (Ed.), published by UW Press in 1999, and a number of articles on public defense issues, most recently "Counsel for Poor Criminal Defendants: An American Tradition," February 2007 Bar News, and she is founder of an ongoing legislative newsletter entitled "Public Defense in Washington." Joanne serves on a number of statewide committees, and chairs the Standards Subcommittee of the WSBA Committee on Public Defense.*