

Media Contacts:  
Executive Director, TCDLA  
Joseph Martinez  
512.478.2514

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association Honors  
Two as Lawyers of the Year at the 27th Annual  
Rusty Duncan Advanced Criminal Law Course**

June 12, 2014 (San Antonio, TX)—The 27th Annual Rusty Duncan Advanced Criminal Law Course, named for the late Judge M. P. “Rusty” Duncan of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, will be held June 12th through 14th at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas. On Thursday, June 12, 2014, the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association will honor Keith S. Hampton and Michael Ware as the Percy Foreman Lawyers of the Year.

Mike Ware enlisted Keith Hampton into the case of the San Antonio 4, involving four women convicted of child molestation. One of the women was out of prison on parole, while two others had spent 12 years in prison and the fourth had spent 17 years in prison. Last November, Ware and Hampton won their release from prison after securing the agreement of the Bexar County District Attorney that their trial was fundamentally unfair. Ware and Hampton are currently seeking their full exoneration.

Keith S. Hampton is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and St. Mary's University School of Law. Keith served as a briefing attorney for the Honorable Sam Houston Clinton and in 1990 began his private law practice in Austin. Named a Super Lawyer every year since 2003 in *Texas Monthly* magazine, Keith has served as a director of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and for more than ten years served as TCDLA lobbyist and legislative chair, as well as serving as Legislative Director for the National Alliance on Mental Illness–Texas. He was on the Ad Hoc Committee to Revise the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Office of the Governor (1995–1996), the Legislative Task Force for the Rewrite of the Incompetency and Insanity Statutes, and the Texas Supreme Court Jury Task Force. He is also a charter member and former director of the Austin Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Among his many awards, Keith was awarded the State Bar of Texas' Percy Foreman Lawyer of the Year award for his work in *Panetti v. Quarterman*, in which a mentally ill man received relief from the United States Supreme Court, and in *Foster v. Texas*, a rare commutation for a young man convicted of capital murder and sentenced to death under the law of parties.

Michael Ware graduated with honors in philosophy from the University of Texas and from the University of Houston Law School, where he was Research Editor for the Houston Law Review and the Houston Law Review's Texas Rules of Evidence Handbook. He was a law clerk for United States District Judge David O. Belew Jr. in Fort Worth, Texas, from 1983 to 1984. In 1984, Mike began private practice, primarily in criminal defense. From July 2007 through June 2011, he was the Special Fields Bureau Chief and the head of the Dallas County District Attorney's Conviction Integrity Unit. During the four years Mike headed the Dallas County Conviction Integrity Unit, the Unit made national and international news for investigating claims of wrongful convictions out

of Dallas County and securing the release and exonerations of 15 wrongly convicted, innocent men, some of whom had served more than 25 years in prison for crimes they did not commit. He has been named a *Texas Monthly* Super Lawyer as both a defense lawyer and a prosecutor. In July 2011, he returned to private practice in Fort Worth, Texas. Mike is an adjunct professor at Texas A&M School of Law and serves on the board of the Innocence Project of Texas.

The Rusty Duncan Advanced Criminal Law Course is the premier seminar for the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and is generally acknowledged as the premier criminal law course in the nation, with more than 800 criminal defense practitioners from around the state in attendance. TCDLA is the largest statewide association of criminal defense lawyers in the country, as well as being the oldest—now celebrating 43 years defending individual freedoms.