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******For Immediate Release: WACDL Announces Recipients of its Annual Awards Presented to Members of Defense Bar******

The Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers is proud to announce the recipients of its 2011 awards.

Seattle attorney **Peter Offenbecher** is the recipient of the 2011 William O. Douglas Award, considered WACDL's most prestigious honor. It recognizes an outstanding attorney who exemplifies extraordinary achievement, courage, and dedication to the practice of criminal law.

Offenbecher is a principal with the firm Skellenger Bender, P.S. A Phi Beta Kappa and summa cum laude graduate of Colorado College, Offenbecher received his law degree from the University of California at Davis, where he was selected for membership to the Order of the Coif.

Prior to entering private practice at Skellenger Bender, the veteran attorney spent 20 years as a public defender, first, in Washington State Courts, and later, in federal court, as the Chief Assistant Federal Public Defender for the Western District of Washington. Offenbecher's current practice involves representing clients confronting the full spectrum of state and federal criminal charges. He provides legal advice to businesses and individuals facing investigations and inquiries from federal and state regulatory agencies, and vigorously represents clients at the trial and appellate stages of the criminal justice system. "Peter continues to take on some of Washington's most challenging and controversial cases," says colleague Todd Maybrown. "And he wins."