



Skadden and University of Alabama Seek Nominees for Morris Dees Justice Award

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2007 Morris Dees Justice Award. The award will be presented to a lawyer who has devoted his or her career to serving the public interest and pursuing justice, and whose work has brought about positive change in the community, state. or nation.

New York, NY ([PRWeb](#)) May 6, 2007 -- To honor Morris Dees for a lifetime of public service, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP & Affiliates and The University of Alabama School of Law are now accepting nominations for the 2007 Morris Dees Justice Award. Nominations must be submitted by Monday, July 30, 2007.

The award will be presented to a lawyer who has devoted his or her career to serving the public interest and pursuing justice, and whose work has brought about positive change in the community, state. or nation.

The award ceremony will take place on November 15, 2007, at an event at Skadden's New York office. Morris Dees will attend to deliver the award. Legendary Alabama blues musician, Willie King, will entertain.

The 2007 winner will be selected by a distinguished committee including:

- Mary Bauer, Southern Poverty Law Center
- Debbie Elliott, National Public Radio
- Professor Bryan Fair, The University of Alabama School of Law
- Professor Jack Greenberg, Columbia Law School
- Judge William Wayne Justice, 2006 Dees Award Winner
- Susan Butler Plum, Skadden Fellowship Program
- Dean Kenneth Randall, The University of Alabama School of Law
- Robert C. Sheehan, Skadden
- Jamiene S. Studley, Public Advocates, Inc.
- John Trasvina, MALDEF
- Tari Devon Williams, The University of Alabama School of Law
- Vaughn C. Williams, Skadden.

Morris Dees is a co-founder and chief trial counsel for the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Alabama. Dees graduated from The University of Alabama School of Law in 1969.

The Center is internationally known for tracking hate groups and extremist activity, conducting tolerance training and winning cases against white supremacists.

"We consider Morris Dees one of our most distinguished law graduates," said Dean Kenneth C. Randall. "His career has been a driving force in our state's and nation's pursuit of justice and equality for all people."

The 2006 Selection Committee recognized Judge William Wayne Justice for his life-long efforts to protect civil rights and safeguard constitution rights, including more than 30 years of service as a federal district court judge.



His notable cases dealt with integration, prisoners' rights, procedural due process, equal access to education, treatment of immigrants, dilution of voting rights and care for the mentally challenged.

Skadden is one of the leading law firms in the world, with 22 offices and approximately 2,000 attorneys. Skadden is known for its support of public interest law and service, through the Skadden Fellowship Program.

To learn more about the award or to submit nominations, visit <http://www.morrisdeesaward.com>.

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