



Department of Justice

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Southern District of Ohio

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2008
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TWO ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEYS TO RECEIVE NATIONAL HONOR

Recognized for Thomas Henderson trial

COLUMBUS -- Assistant United States Attorneys David Devillers and Kevin Kelley have been selected by the National Association of Former United States Attorneys ("NAFUSA"), to receive the association's 2008 award for outstanding single trial in the nation.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, announced their selection today for the award to be presented in Washington, D.C. at the association's annual meeting on Saturday, October 4th.

Kelley and Devillers were chosen because of their successful prosecution of Thomas A. Henderson of Columbus. Henderson killed two people who provided information that led to his conviction for robbing a Macon, Georgia bank in 1981. The two witnesses, Robert Bass and Ecolia Washington, were murdered in 1996 and 1998. Their homicides were unsolved until Columbus Police Detective Dennis Graul and FBI Special Agent Tim Creedon built the case against Henderson. A United States District Court jury convicted Henderson in June, 2007. Henderson was sentenced February 1, 2008 to three consecutive terms of life imprisonment

"This is a great honor for Kevin and David," Lockhart said. It also recognizes the outstanding investigators and the support team in our office who gave such tremendous effort in this landmark case."

Since 1999, NAFUSA has presented an annual award to an outstanding Assistant(s) United States Attorney in recognition of the recipient's conscientious efforts and professional contributions exemplifying the ideals of NAFUSA by furthering the integrity and effectiveness of the Office of the United States Attorney and the United States Department of Justice.

The award is known as the J. Michael Bradford Memorial Award, named for a NAFUSA member who served as an Assistant United States Attorney, a United States Attorney, a United States Magistrate Judge, and a Texas District Court Judge. Bradford served as defense counsel for the United States Government in the suit brought by the Branch Davidians in the Waco civil trial against the Government claiming a violation of their civil rights. Bradford was highly credited for restoring the public's and the court's confidence in the integrity of the United States Department of Justice.

Devillers was appointed Assistant U.S. Attorney in 2002 after serving as an assistant Franklin County Prosecutor. Kelley was appointed Assistant U.S. Attorney in 1994 after serving with the Defense Logistics Agency.

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