



**Superior Court of California  
County of Orange**

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RECEIVES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS**

Santa Ana - Orange County Superior Court Judge Wendy S. Lindley was recognized this week by two professional organizations for her innovative work to improve the lives of defendants who suffer from substance abuse, mental disabilities and homelessness.

The Mental Health Association of Orange County presented Judge Lindley with the "Thomas F. Riley Community Service Award" in recognition of her outstanding contributions in the field of mental health. The award was presented at a luncheon in Newport Beach, California on February 26. Earlier in the week at the Western Society of Criminology Annual Conference in Long Beach, Judge Lindley was presented the "June Morrison-Tom Gitchoff Founders Award" for her efforts to improve the quality of justice.

Judge Lindley is a leader in the development of collaborative courts which work to ensure that those who enter the justice system with substance or mental health disabilities are provided the professional help, skills and opportunities needed to reenter society and maintain a productive life. Collaborative courts use a team approach comprised of members of the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender, the Probation Department and the Mental Health Agency.

Judge Lindley is co-chair of the Orange County Community Court Project and serves on the Orange County Coalition for Mental Health Services. She has held many other leadership positions including Vice President of the California Association of Drug Court Professionals, Vice Chair of the Orange County Family Violence Council, and served as a member of the Administrative Office of the Courts Drug Court Oversight Committee. She has lectured for the National Association of Drug Court Professionals and has provided council and assistance to many organizations, having received numerous awards for her community service efforts.

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