

The Texas Gavel Awards are presented by the State Bar of Texas to recognize journalistic excellence that:

- Fosters public understanding of the legal system
- Educates the public about the law, the legal profession, and the judicial branch of government
- Discloses practices or procedures needing correction in order to improve the practice of law, courts, or justice system.

The following Texas journalists were presented with Texas Gavel Awards in 2008:

Chuck Lindell, *Austin American-Statesman*, "Jimmy Lee"

Brooks Egerton and **Reese Dunklin**, *The Dallas Morning News*, "Unequal Justice: Murderers on Probation"

Doug J. Swanson, **Gregg Jones**, **Jennifer LaFleur**, **Steve McGonigle**, **Emily Ramshaw** and **Holly Becka**, *The Dallas Morning News*, "Texas Youth Commission Investigation"

Tommy Witherspoon, *Waco Tribune-Herald*, "Disorder in the Court"

Byron Harris, **Mark Smith** and **Kraig Kirchem**, *WFAA-TV*, Dallas, "Television Justice"

Awards were presented at the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas (FOIFT) annual conference.