Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

May 17, 2010

Prosecutor receives award for legal excellence

LOS ANGELES – A veteran trial attorney of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office will receive the accolade of Prosecutor of the Year at a ceremony later this week.

Alan Jackson will be recognized at an awards dinner on Thursday, May 20. The event will take place at the Biltmore Hotel, 506 S. Grand Ave., in Los Angeles.

"The District Attorney's Office has a long-standing tradition of prosecutorial excellence," District Attorney Steve Cooley said. "I congratulate Alan for this prestigious distinction. He is an accomplished prosecutor who has secured convictions in some of the county's most complex, high-profile cases."

Other award recipients include the Honorable William R. Pounders of Los Angeles Superior Court, recipient of the Judge of the Year award; Justice Carlos R. Moreno, associate justice of the California Supreme Court, recipient of the Career Achievement award; and Richard A. Hutton, of Hutton & Wilson, recipient of the Defense Attorney of the Year award.

Jackson has prosecuted more than 50 felony cases – nearly half of which have been murders – during the course of his 15-year career with the District Attorney's Office.

In 2009, Jackson successfully led the prosecution of famed music producer Phil Spector, who fatally shot a woman in the foyer of his Alhambra home. Similarly in 2006, Jackson secured a conviction against the man who ordered the 1988 execution-style murders of legendary race car driver Mickey Thompson and his wife, Trudy.

He is currently assistant head deputy of the Major Crimes Division where he continues to carry his own caseload. Previously, Jackson was assigned to the Hardcore Gang Division where, for five years, he convicted some of Los Angeles County's most violent gang members.

Each year, the Los Angeles County Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section, honors individuals who have consistently demonstrated legal excellence in the field of criminal justice. The award recognizes professionalism, ethics, prosecution of high-profile cases, career accomplishments and community service. Nominees are selected from federal, state, county and city prosecutorial agencies.

Past recipients of the Prosecutor of the Year award include District Attorney Steve Cooley; Patrick Dixon, Head Deputy District Attorney of the Major Crimes Division; David Demerjian, Head Deputy District Attorney of the Public Integrity Division; and Compton Superior Court Judge Eleanor J. Hunter, a former Los Angeles County prosecutor.