

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

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Deputy DA Bart Menser receives N.C. Bar Association's outstanding prosecutor award

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Mecklenburg County Deputy District Attorney Bart Menser will receive a North Carolina Bar Association award this week for his outstanding and ethical service as a prosecutor.

The Bar Association's Criminal Justice Section will present the [Peter S. Gilchrist III Award](#) to Mr. Menser during the eighth annual awards dinner in Cary on February 25, 2016. Mr. Menser was nominated by District Attorney Andrew Murray, who told the award selection committee that Mr. Menser has established himself as a highly respected member of the legal community over the course of 30 years, often serving as a mentor and ethical beacon for his fellow prosecutors.

"Mr. Menser is very aware of the power and the responsibility that comes with being a prosecutor," District Attorney Murray wrote in his nomination. "His sense of right and wrong, and his constant evaluation of ethical duties – whether as a prosecutor or simply as a member of this community – makes him the moral compass of the DA's Office."



Deputy District Attorney
Bart Menser

The award is named for former Mecklenburg County District Attorney Peter Gilchrist, who served as the county's chief prosecutor for 36 years before retiring in 2010. Mr. Gilchrist hired Mr. Menser as an Assistant District Attorney in 1982 and later appointed him Deputy District Attorney. Mr. Menser maintained this position when District Attorney Murray took office in 2011. Mr. Gilchrist joined District Attorney Murray in nominating Mr. Menser for the award.

"I know of no other individual in North Carolina more deserving," Mr. Gilchrist wrote in a letter to the award selection committee. "...His most significant contribution to the profession has been the training and mentoring of younger lawyers in the ethical and professional practice of law."

As Deputy District Attorney, Mr. Menser is the office's point of contact for local law enforcement leaders, and he frequently meets with police to discuss policies and best practices. He attends regular meetings with court officials to examine the use of local courtrooms, working to ensure that available courtroom time is used efficiently, and he has worked to make the entire judicial process – from arrest to resolution – as effective as possible. Each Mecklenburg County Assistant District Attorney who is hired meets with Mr. Menser, who sets the tone for the high level of integrity and respectability expected of prosecutors.

Also supporting Mr. Menser’s nomination for the award was Mecklenburg Public Defender Kevin Tully, who wrote that Mr. Menser has mentored generations of lawyers.

“He is a model for all prosecutors who must balance their zeal for prosecution with the requirements of fairness,” Mr. Tully wrote. “Bart’s use of the authority and power possessed by prosecutors is always tempered by what is just and fair.”

Note: For more information about the District Attorney’s Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, “like” the DA’s Office on Facebook at www.facebook.com/charmeckda and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.

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