

STAND FOR
INNOCENCE

2017 BENEFIT & AWARDS DINNER
MAY 4, 2017 / BLOCK 41, SEATTLE

DINNER BY TOM DOUGLAS RESTAURANTS



1997 - 2017

INNOCENCE PROJECT
NORTHWEST

SCHOOL OF LAW | UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

ALEJANDRA
GONZA

INNOCENCE ADVOCATE AWARD // // // // // // // // // // //



Human rights advocate Alejandra Gonza is Director of the International Human Rights Clinic at UW School of Law. Her recent successes as co-counsel on two wrongful convictions in Mexico represent a growing recognition of wrongful convictions worldwide. Working through the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and engaging in tireless media advocacy, Ale helped secure the release of U.S. citizen Nestora Salgado of Seattle, an

indigenous leader persecuted and arbitrarily detained in Mexico after she returned to her hometown to help combat cartel violence. Ale was also instrumental in freeing Mexican Ananias Laparra who had been tortured into confessing to a murder he did not commit and was wrongly imprisoned for 12 years. Working through the Inter-American Commission, Ale negotiated a settlement that led to monetary support for Ananias and his family, a public apology and recognition of innocence by the government of Chiapas, and an agreement to implement legal reforms there to prevent future wrongful convictions.

CASEY
STAMM

INNOCENCE CHAMPION AWARD // // // // // // // // // // //



Casey Stamm has fought for the wrongly convicted since she enrolled in law school 20 years ago, earning a reputation as a fearless and creative advocate for clients through her work as a public defender and private criminal defense lawyer. As a law student, Casey was an Innocence Project Northwest volunteer on the legal team for Wenatchee sex ring client Meredith Town. Casey provided critical investigative work and wrote the petition leading to

Mr. Town's release and exoneration in 2000. Casey continued to make significant contributions in post-conviction and death penalty cases throughout her career and is recognized as a brilliant resource by her colleagues in the criminal defense community. In 2014, Casey responded to IPNW's call for help and agreed to assist on a complex case after the Washington Supreme Court denied relief for our client in a 5-4 decision. Casey brought fresh energy and her considerable intellect to litigating the federal habeas petition in U.S. District Court and the Ninth Circuit. When we did not prevail in federal court, Casey responded with the tenacity she is known for and continues to strategize about avenues of relief while devoting countless hours of pro bono service to remedy the miscarriage of justice in this case.