

# Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services

Strengthening the Delivery of Civil Legal Help to Vulnerable Tennesseans

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## Access to Justice Award Winners 2014

The Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services will present this year's Access to Justice awards on Wednesday, September 10th at its annual Equal Justice University. The awards honor those individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in the cause of expanding access to civil legal services in 2014. This year's award winners include:

**George T. "Buck" Lewis** who will receive this year's inaugural Janice M. Holder Award, named for retiring Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Janice Holder. The Holder Award honors an individual who has advanced the quality of justice statewide by ensuring that the legal system is open and available to all. Lewis is a shareholder with Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz P.C.

**Theresa-Vay Smith**, an attorney with the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee & the Cumberland, will receive the B. Riney Green Award. The B. Riney Green Award recognizes the advocate who has coordinated statewide efforts to improve the quality of legal services for low income Tennesseans.

**Charlie McDaniel**, with Legal Aid East Tennessee, will receive the New Advocate of the Year Award. This award honors advocates who have excelled within their first five years in public interest law.

The conference will open with a celebration of the first annual Holder Award at the Welcome Lunch 11:45am-12:45pm on September 10<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro, TN. The B. Riney Green and New Advocate Awards will be presented at a reception and dinner that evening. National Civil Rights Leader Diane Nash will give the evening's keynote address. The event will also feature pieces from the Tennessee State Museum *We Shall Not Be Moved* Exhibit. The full schedule of EJU 2014 events can be found at: <http://www.tals.org/EJUschedule>

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