



NACDL FOUNDATION FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRESENTS

# CELEBRATING AN ICON OF DEFENSE

A RECEPTION HONORING ALBERT J. KRIEGER

AUGUST 12, 2022

THE BREAKERS PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH, FL

NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION  
OF CRIMINAL  
DEFENSE LAWYERS



NACDL  
FOUNDATION FOR  
CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE

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## A MESSAGE FROM



# Cynthia EVA HUJAR ORR

*President, NACDL Foundation for Criminal Justice*

### Dear Colleagues,

It is such a pleasure to join you in remembering the life, work, friendship, and accomplishments of Albert Krieger. While Albert had a voice like thunder through the mountains, he had a heart that was bigger. His work at Wounded Knee representing pro bono those who most men disregarded was both courageous and the beginnings of NACDL as more than a mere social club of professionals. I say it was courageous, because as he, himself, said: "The criminal defense lawyer marches into the pit, often unloved by everyone in the courtroom, but with the courage, strength and mind to make our Constitution live as a vibrant being in that courtroom on behalf of someone who at that moment stands for all the principles of freedom and dignity. It is a chore in many respects. It is difficult in all respects. It is tiring. It is demanding. But it is what we signed up for." I remember being shocked that Albert felt the work was tiring because he was unrelenting. I remember feeling good that a giant in the law such as he would admit to the same fears I had, saying that our work took courage. As we know, courage is not the absence of fear but rather the triumph over it. And triumph he did, over and over again. He marched into that pit with vigor and resolve. He marched into that pit with his bride of seventy-four years, Irene, by his side.

And if you were young or just did not know who he was, he welcomed you like a dear one nonetheless. He made you feel accepted and helped you. He believed that we make the Constitution a living thing, to his soul. It was important to him. So, he helped others do that whether by his example, by teaching, by answering questions, or giving his opinion. Your intellect and experience did not matter to him. If you were truly fortunate, you got to hear Albert reminisce.

It is due to the generosity of Albert and his family that we carry on his legacy of helping the accused and unfortunate, and his legacy of marching into the pit to right wrongs. Their generous gift to the NACDL Foundation for Criminal Justice supports our work to defeat that which deprives us of the crown jewel of our democracy — the trial by jury. I am speaking of coercive plea bargaining and the trial penalty. I know he would approve of our work training lawyers to defend those accused in the overcriminalization of providing reproductive health care. I appreciate very much that the Krieger family supports the Foundation for Criminal Justice as it expresses Albert's dedication to NACDL and its mission through its work. That dedication of Albert's to NACDL too has been unrelenting.

And so, my dear ones, in Albert's honor we dedicate this celebration and our Annual Meeting in Albert's memory. You decided this and it is befitting of such a wonderful human being.

I hope you also enjoy this celebration and each other.

Yours truly,

**Cynthia Eva Hujar Orr**

*President, NACDL Foundation for Criminal Justice*

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San Antonio, Texas

## A MESSAGE FROM



# Martín SABELLI

*President, National Association  
of Criminal Defense Lawyers*

### Compañeros y Compañeras,

As we round the corner into the New NACDL Year, I ask that we all pause for a moment to lift our gaze from the press of our daily work for our clients and from the crush of our struggles to bring humanity to the criminal legal system. I ask that you pause to consider and to celebrate our collective accomplishments over the past year in terms of our organizational strength and in terms of our impact on reform. I invite all of you — members, nonmembers, and staff — to celebrate because our success flows from every minute, every insight, and every dollar that we contribute to the collective work we do.

Over the last year, we have expanded NACDL's reach despite the retrenchment of virtually every national bar organization. Most importantly, we have steadied our ship after a long search for an Executive Director who has, in eight short months, elevated our profile, diversified our staff, and led by example in the courtroom.

We have launched numerous initiatives to further our Mission and — thanks to hard work by stalwarts Nina Ginsburg, Lindsay Lewis, and Missy Owen and others — have laid the foundation for resisting the imminent wave of overcriminalization and mass incarceration detonated by the decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*.

We have, moreover, organized a national Coalition to End the Trial Penalty that joins forces from across the great national ideological divide — no small feat in today's polarized world.

Led by Andy Birrell, Addy Schmidt, Barry Pollack, and Robert Patillo, we have furthered the capacity of NACDL to conduct strategic litigation to complement the litigation done by our Fourth Amendment Center and our Amicus Committee, both nationally-recognized as cutting edge, brilliant, and — frankly — hip.

The new Board Members who will take the oath of office in West Palm Beach will bring greater diversity of life and professional experience thanks in great part to the Promethean work by our Diversity Committee Chairs, Adrian Lobo, Justin Rosas, and Gabriel Reyes.

Our Parliamentarian, Kobie Flowers, has set in motion a Task Force to assist our diverse membership, without dictating, to navigate the propriety, means, and limitations of anti-racist lawyering so that each of us can choose for ourselves the meaning of taking on racism when we represent our clients.

These accomplishments represent a small fraction of the work by staff and volunteer leaders — work whose magnitude, impact, and brilliance one cannot begin to appreciate unless you find yourself sitting where I am sitting with a first row seat to the efforts which our members and staff undertake every day. Of course, I write the word “appreciate” with a bit of irony lurking about the corners of my mouth because I am both looking forward to being put out to pasture when Nellie King is sworn in and already missing the inspiration of my daily interactions with many of you as friends, colleagues, and teachers.

I leave you with that personal confession and with the hope that all of you will redouble your efforts and contribute to our Mission by joining a committee or task force, by spreading our word across every platform you have, and — of course — by giving consistent with your means. We must grow not for our own sake but to meet the challenges that our world has and will continue to lay at our door in our efforts to bend the moral arc of the universe. So from wherever you sit — in an NACDL office, in your firm, in a public defender office, or anywhere else — take a moment to raise a glass in celebration of our work this year and in expectation for the opportunities that we will soon take to make the criminal legal system more just, more rational, and more humane.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martín Sabelli'.

**Martín Sabelli**

*President, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers*



## A MESSAGE FROM



# Nellie KING

*President-Elect, National Association  
of Criminal Defense Lawyers*

*The righteous man departs, but his light remains.*  
– Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoevsky

On behalf of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, it is my sincere privilege to welcome you to tonight's reception honoring Albert J. Krieger, a past president of NACDL and an icon of the criminal defense bar who passed away in 2020. Tonight is a special evening dedicated to toasting and remembering the impact Albert J. Krieger had on our community, the nation, the world. Tonight is also an opportunity to continue Albert's legacy by giving to NACDL's Foundation for Criminal Justice and supporting the causes which mattered most to him.

I met Albert in the 1990s, but I did not get to know him until I served as president of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers in 2011. Mr. Krieger's courtroom presence and surgical cross examinations were legendary; his representations of high-profile government targets like Joseph Bonanno, John Gotti, and Willy Falcon the stuff of legal lore.

Most importantly, Albert was a mentor to me, and many others, learning how to navigate this profession. Albert would freely share stories, advice, and trial techniques. Albert was a founding member of the National Criminal Defense College and he often financially supported young public defenders who sought to sharpen their skills at NCDC, as well as other trial training programs. His presence as a fixture in the legal community inspired legions of lawyers to remain steadfast in the defense of the citizen accused.

Albert was president of NACDL in 1979 and he received NACDL's Lifetime Achievement Award in 1987. The Association then conferred its highest honor, the Robert C. Heeney Memorial Award, upon Albert in 1995. Albert served as a tireless advocate not only for his clients, but for the greater cause. His voice resonated deeply – both in quality (low, authoritative, James Earl Jones-*esque*) and in message. In 2020, NACDL voted to name its annual meeting after Albert, thereby forever commemorating the profound impact Albert had on the organization, and the profession.

Albert very much understood the strength and power of the NACDL family: when the system skews against our clients, and the contributions of the defense lawyer are misunderstood, maligned, even mocked, we fight. We fight together. Albert's gift – his *light* – can be seen in every one of us that chooses to stand, fight, and remain *Liberty's Last Champion*.

The fight for justice has encountered a number of serious obstacles. Your contribution to NACDL's Foundation for Criminal Justice ensures the future success and sustainability of NACDL's many initiatives and programs at an unprecedented time in this country. Our nation sits at a critical juncture in the fight against systemic racism, police misconduct, overreach, and brutality, mass incarceration, overcriminalization, woefully underfunded public defense offices, sentencings which penalize the constitutional right to a jury trial, and now, the prosecution of women who choose to exercise their reproductive rights, as well as those that aid in those personal decisions.

Your support of the Foundation also ensures that the voices of those who came before, like Albert J. Krieger, continue to resonate, and that the promise of today's young lawyers, particularly public defenders, can be realized.

Thank you for being here to celebrate and for supporting NACDL's Foundation for Criminal Justice. Let's raise a glass to Albert!

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Nellie L. King".

**Nellie L. King**

*President-Elect, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers*

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*We also thank Irene Krieger, members of the Krieger Family, and those who made generous contributions to the Albert J. Krieger Memorial Fund. This fund was established within the NACDL Foundation for Criminal Justice to support work that will honor his memory and commitment to excellence within the Criminal Defense Bar.*

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**We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the  
following for donating to our silent auction.**

Jerry Buting and Dean Stang, Trevor Goering, Hobo, Justice Text, Luise Krieger Martin, Missy and Geoffrey Owen,  
Sonya Pfeiffer, Todd Pugh, David Rudolf, Jill Shellow, Steven Stauff, Susan Van Dusen, and Varinia Van Ness.

A large, faded portrait of Albert J. Krieger, an older man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie, is positioned on the left side of the page. The background of the entire page features a geometric pattern of overlapping triangles in shades of beige and tan.

# ALBERT J. KRIEGER: A TRIBUTE

People will not see a photo of Albert Krieger when they look up the word “lawyer” in an online dictionary, but in a perfect world his image would be there. He had the knowledge, the charisma, and the good judgment that lawyers need. And for the criminal defense bar, it is just as important that he was a leader and an inspiration.

No lawyer did more in the past half century to define the defense function than Albert Krieger. He was a bridge from the original founders of NACDL to today’s leadership. Through his eloquence, his integrity, his dignity, and his example, he transformed a nascent group of dreamers into a singularly respected advocacy and criminal defense support organization.

Albert’s mentor was one of the original founders of NACDL who took him from the halls of 100 Centre Street, New York’s historic criminal court building, taught him to be a trial lawyer, and set him on a path that was to forever change the image and standing of America’s defense bar.

Albert Krieger was honored by the American Bar Association. As Albert recalled when NACDL celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2008, “I was instructed by my mentor Gilbert S. Rosenthal, one of the original founders, that I was expected to devote myself to NACDL. I made a vow ... that I would try to do for others what he had done for me.”

He stood shoulder to shoulder with the early giants of the Association — Gil Rosenthal, Sam Dash, Percy Foreman, Morris Shenker, Charlie Tessmer, Robert Heeney, and so many others. In those days, the defense lawyer was held in little esteem: It was seen as a seedy role shaped by Hollywood’s mischaracterization of the lawyer as a shady mouthpiece who only represented scoundrels and hoods. The organized bar had little respect, and even less use, for defense lawyers. NACDL’s founders knew better — and formed a group to prove it.

Albert Krieger taught, led, and inspired. He led most of the great battles: the fight to protect lawyers from subpoena; the pro bono defense of Native Americans at Wounded Knee; and the determination to train and educate one generation after another through his support of the National Criminal Defense College. Most importantly, Albert showed the defense bar the importance of engagement with the rest of the profession, the Department of Justice, and all who play a role in shaping criminal justice policy. Under Albert’s leadership, not only as president, but also as mentor to more than 30 NACDL presidents, NACDL was guided to a place of unprecedented stature.

Albert Krieger’s words will resonate throughout the ages:

*I am confident beyond measure that whatever the stress of the coming years, the criminal defense lawyer will not merely serve in the trenches as a soldier, but will serve as a planning, vigorous, fighting guide to this country on how to live according to the tenets of our Constitution. And each member of NACDL will serve as a teacher for each succeeding generation. There will be disappointments and struggles, but we defense lawyers are prepared to win — and we will.*

**— Albert Krieger,  
NACDL’s 50th anniversary in 2008**

A lawyer of Albert Krieger’s caliber comes along only once in every generation. His love of the law was matched by his love for NACDL.



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**We also welcome four of the five NACDL Diversity Summer Law Fellowship recipients that are joining us in Palm Beach, Florida.**

**Elliot DeMent**, a student at the T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond, is interning with the Chesterfield Virginia Public Defender's Office.

**Ryan McElhose**, from the University of Tennessee College of Law, is interning with the Federal Public Defender's Office — Northern District of Texas. **Abigail Williams**, from the McGeorge School of Law at the University of Pacific, is interning with the New York Defender Services. **David Wu**, from the University of Virginia School of Law, is interning with the Public Defender's Office in Clark County, Nevada.

The fifth fellow, **Lucia Caballero**, student at the City University of New York School of Law, is interning with the Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma, but was unable to join us in Florida.

Participation by these fellows was made possible through the generous contributions to the Albert J. Krieger Fund with the NACDL Foundation for Criminal Justice.

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NACDL's Diversity Summer Law Fellowship program provides opportunities for law students from historically underrepresented backgrounds to work with exceptional and experienced criminal defense attorneys. Students receive a weekly stipend for up to eight weeks of summer employment.

**“In celebration of Albert”**

**– Nina J. Ginsberg**







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*"To holding the line - not trusting the institution  
- and yet proceeding with kindness."*

*- Justin Rosas*

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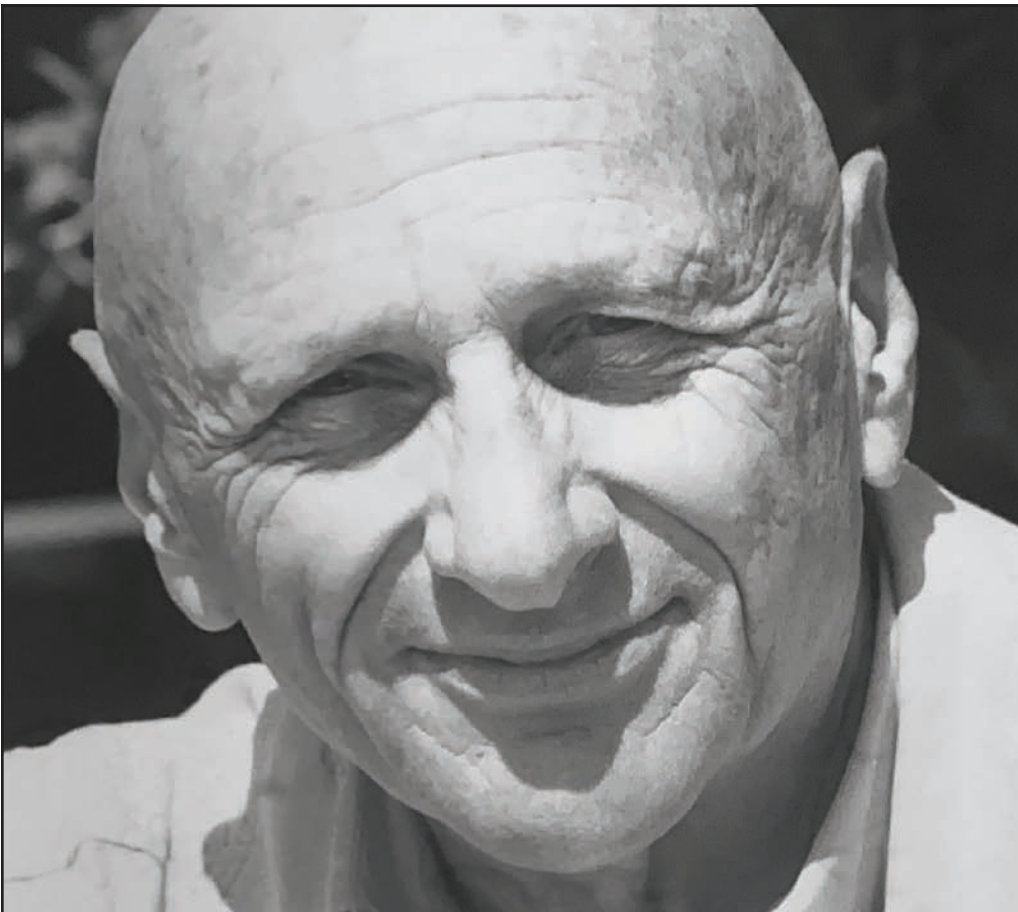




Thank you, Albert, for a life of courage and dedication to justice, and congratulations Nellie King — both of you have supported and given so much to the NACDL Foundation for Criminal Justice.

**Chris Adams**

*Adams & Bischoff, L.L.C.  
Criminal Defense Law Firm*



In loving memory of Albert—who was the embodiment of generosity, brilliance, fearlessness, kindness, wisdom, humility, idealism, and (most of all) devotion to his family and those of us who were blessed to know him.

—Susan Van Dusen

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artwork by Trevor Goring

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"Albert J. Krieger . . . was something else. Sleek of build, smooth of dome, impeccable in attire; he could swagger even when he was sitting still. His mind was expansive, his speech was powerful, and his attitude was irreproachable. He was a complete trial lawyer."

– Judge Warren K. Urbom of the District of Nebraska,  
who presided over the Wounded Knee cases

**We Proudly Honor Albert Krieger,  
our Close and Dear Friend for Almost 50 Years.**

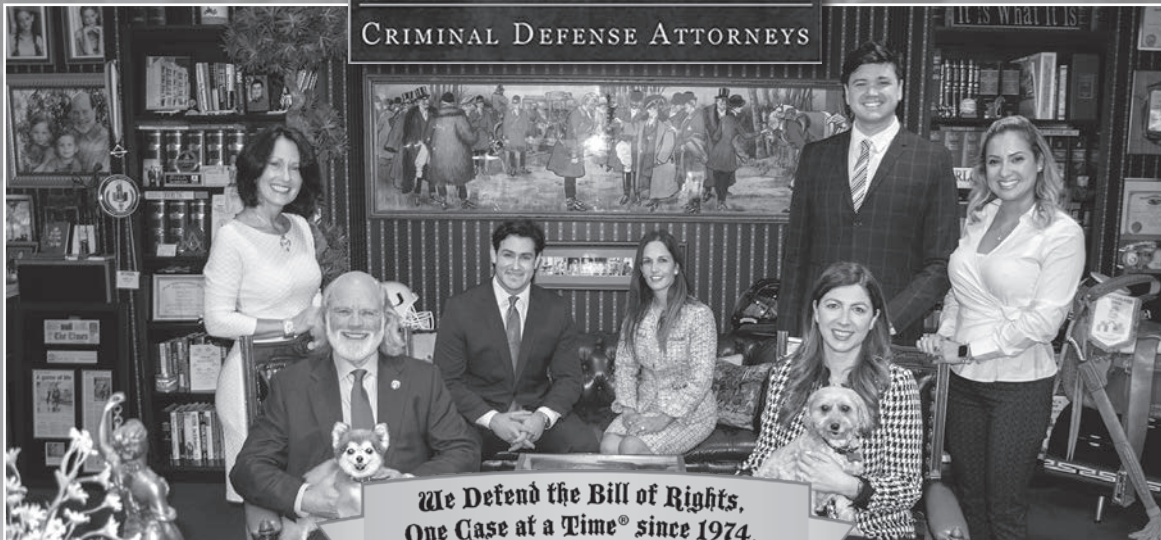
**We Will Never Forget Albert,  
Who Gave Us so Much to Remember.**

*With Love and Respect,*

**Neal and Pat Sonnett**

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Albert Krieger was a mentor to me. He inspired generations of criminal defense lawyers.  
His legacy is far-reaching and his memory will be treasured by all of us.

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# HONORING ALBERT'S LEGACY

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Albert represented the very best in our profession: he defended both his clients and the Bill of Rights with undaunting courage and truly exceptional skill. I will always treasure our sharing the defense during two long and hard-fought trials (US v. Moran, US v. Falcon & Magluta) lasting over 8 months — an experience that made me both a better lawyer and a better man.

**Martin G. Weinberg, Esq.**



Albert Krieger, friend  
and mentor, we miss you.

**Samuel Rabin**



## **Albert Krieger & NACDL**

**A Legacy of Liberty**



Albert was a mentor,  
a great lawyer and  
a hero to all criminal  
defense attorneys.

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# **In memory of Albert Krieger**

*Fred Haddad*



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**To Albert Krieger —  
a great New York lawyer:**

- Born and raised in New York
- College and law school at New York University
- Practiced years in New York before moving to Florida
- Besides Wounded Knee, most famous trial was in NY (John Gotti)

**Gerald B. Lefcourt**

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**We miss you  
very much, Albert.**

**Thanks for being such  
a champion of criminal  
defense and for inspiring  
all of us to fight.**

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**“Albert was my friend, my  
mentor and I loved him.”**

– Marty Pinales

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the path he forged through the landscape of Miami Criminal  
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**Thank you, Martín Sabelli.  
Congratulations, Nellie King.**

*“I and we Criminal  
Defense Lawyers love  
and miss Albert dearly.”*

— **David Rothman**





Attorneys Kathleen Stilling and Jerome Buting, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, are proud to support The Foundation for Criminal Justice and the 2022 Reception.

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I am proud to support  
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Thanks to Albert for  
 a life of courage and  
 dedication to justice.

**Vicki H. Young**



*The NACDL Foundation for Criminal Justice  
 and the National Association of  
 Criminal Defense Lawyers*

**T H A N K**  
**Lawrence Zimmerman and the  
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**T H A N K**  
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**B E D E L L F I R M**



**Albert:  
Sandy D'Alemberte  
would be proud.**

- Hank Coxe

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**We are pleased  
to honor our friend,  
Albert J. Krieger.**

**Bruce and Sheryl Udolf**

Sólo le pido a Dios  
Que el dolor no me sea indiferente  
Que la resaca muerte no me encuentre  
Vacío y solo sin haber hecho lo suficiente

Sólo le pido a Dios  
Que lo injusto no me sea indiferente  
Que no me abofeteen la otra mejilla  
Después que una garra me arañó esta suerte

Sólo le pido a Dios  
Que la guerra no me sea indiferente  
Es un monstruo grande y pisa fuerte  
Sobre la pobre inocencia de la gente

**“Sólo Le Pido a Dios” by León Gieco**

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*We ask only of a higher power what NACDL has nurtured in us — that suffering, injustice, and war inspire our resistance, outrage, and love.*

Lisa Wayne & Martín Sabelli



Photo by Picasso

## Thank you for making a difference.

On behalf of NACDL and the NACDL Foundation for Criminal Justice (NFCJ), we thank you for your presence here tonight.

Funds generated by this event will help NACDL and the NFCJ work toward their missions. In addition, a portion of the proceeds from tonight's fundraiser will support the Albert J. Krieger Memorial Fund, a fund that was established to support work that will honor this Icon of Defense.

Everyone here, whether a donor or guest, is a partner in our efforts to build a more humane and just criminal legal system.

To learn more about work supported by the NFCJ, please visit [nacdl.org/foundation](https://nacdl.org/foundation). And you can make a tax-free contribution by using the text-to-give which will be displayed during the event, or by visiting [NACDL.org/SupportNFCJ](https://NACDL.org/SupportNFCJ).



The NACDL Foundation for Criminal Justice (NFCJ), and its member organization, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL), are the preeminent organizations in the United States advancing the mission of the nation's criminal defense bar to ensure justice and due process for persons accused of a crime, to foster the integrity and independence of the criminal defense profession, and to promote the core values of America's justice system. NACDL envisions a society where all individuals receive fair, rational, and humane treatment within the criminal justice system. NACDL's mission is to serve as a leader, alongside diverse coalitions, in identifying and reforming flaws and inequities in the criminal justice system, redressing systemic racism, and ensuring that its members and others in the criminal defense bar are fully equipped to serve all accused persons at the highest level. NACDL pursues this mission by providing training and resources to the defense bar, and by more broadly promoting criminal justice reform throughout the legal profession and society as a whole.

Fundraisers such as tonight's Reception provide the NFCJ, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, critical unrestricted support that enables NACDL to meet its mission.

### Efforts supported by the NFCJ include:

**Diversity Summer Law Fellowships** to promote diversity in the criminal defense bar and multi-faceted programs to address **systemic racial and ethnic disparities**;

A major national effort to combat the tyranny of **the trial penalty**;

**Pro bono clemency and compassionate release** (NACDL's Return to Freedom Project initiatives) programs to secure reduction of excessive sentences;

Several projects focusing on **restoration of rights**;

NACDL's groundbreaking research and reports including recently released reports on the **Criminalization of Abortion** and another on the perils of **Predictive Policing**; various strategic initiatives to promote **sentencing reform**;

**NACDL's response to the Dobbs decision** including providing training and resources for those defending people charged with pregnancy and reproductive health charges.

Support for NACDL's **Fourth Amendment Center** to equip the criminal defense bar to challenge unprecedented governmental challenges to privacy in the digital age.

Know that your presence here tonight helps NACDL and the NFCJ fight for a more just, and humane, criminal legal system. Thank you!

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