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Tarrant County ACDA Named Prosecutor of the Year By Texas Gang Investigators Association For Murder Conviction of Bandidos Kingpin

(Fort Worth, TX) – Pamela Boggess, an Assistant Criminal District Attorney in the Office of Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney Sharen Wilson has been awarded the 2018 Prosecuting Attorney of the Year Award by the Texas Gang Investigators Association (TGIA).

Boggess, assistant chief prosecutor with the Tarrant County CDA's Gang Unit, was recognized for prosecuting last year's high profile case against former-Fort Worth Bandidos president Howard Baker. Baker was charged with organizing a 2015 ambush by dozens of Bandidos and other gang members at the Gators Inn Bar in Fort Worth. In a barrage of gunfire, the bikers stormed the club where members of another gang were present, dragged a rival gang member out onto the front lawn, assaulting and ultimately murdering him in front of his wife and friends.

The State utlized the "Kingpin Statute" to hold Baker accountable for masterminding the biker gang's activities, which made him ultimately responsible for this ambush and murder. Prosecutors were the target of violent threats from gang sources throughout their handling of the case, and Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn maintained an unprecedented lockdown of the courthouse, including deputies positioned on the rooftops, for the duration of the trial.

Ultimately, Baker was found guilty of 3 charges: Directing and Engaging in the Activities of a Criminal Street Gang and Murder, and sentenced to 45, 40 and 40 year prison terms.

"Anyone who has come up against Pam in court can tell you why she is well-deserving of this award," said Criminal District Attorney, Sharen Wilson. "She brings a drive and tenacity all her own to every case she prosecutes. These gang member rely on intimidation tactics, but they find out quickly they've met their match in Pam Boggess."

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The TGIA is a non-profit organization that has been serving Texas since 1991. Founded by a small group of officers charged with the investigation of street gangs, prison gangs, organized crime, and their related activities, the TGIA today numbers over 1,490 members from across Texas and the United States. TGIA was formed to promote a closer working relationship among gang investigators statewide and nationally with a view toward the rapid dissemination and exchange of information concerning gang related incidents suspects and investigations. They encourage and support legislation to decrease gang related crimes and assist the judiciary with their prosecution, and provide training opportunities.