

Kemba Smith headlines MACDL's winter meeting

By: Mass. Lawyers Weekly Staff March 26, 2015

The Massachusetts Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers' annual winter meeting was attended by some 200 members who gathered to hear keynote speaker Kemba Smith, whose involvement with a drug dealer landed her a 24-year sentence. Smith's case drew widespread support for reversing the trend toward increasingly lengthy sentences for first-time, non-violent drug offenders. Granted clemency by President Bill Clinton in 2000 after serving six years of her federal sentence, Smith has since become a leading advocate for sentencing reform. In addition, the association presented its Gideon and President's awards at the meeting.

PHOTOS BY TONY IRVING PHOTOGRAPHY



President's Award recipient Edward P. Ryan Jr. of O'Connor & Ryan (center) with Boston attorney Martin R. Rosenthal and Wendy Kaplan of Boston University School of Law



Gideon Award winner Arnold I. Abelow of Sweeny & Abelow (left), MACDL President Elizabeth A. Lunt and Edward P. Ryan Jr. of O'Connor & Ryan



From left: Victor J. Garo, Nancy Gertner of Harvard Law School,

WBUR reporter David Boeri and Elliot
M. Weinstein



Gideon Award recipient Arnold I. Abelow addresses the crowd at the Newton Marriott.



From left: Arnie Lucinda Stewart, LaMer Kyle-Griffiths and Catherine LaRaia, all of CPCS



From left: John H. Cunha Jr. of Cunha & Holcomb; J. Drew Segadelli of Fagan, Goldrick & Segadelli; keynote speaker Smith; and MACDL President Elizabeth A. Lunt of Zalkind, Duncan & Bernstein



Verma Charu of CPCS and Michael P. Schneider of Good, Schneider, Cormier



From left: Laura Alfring, Rachel Scotch, Melanie Roberts and Jason Green, all of CPCS



From left: John Salsberg, Robert Sinsheimer of Sinsheimer & Associates and Paul H. Carrigan of CPCS

Issue: MARCH 30 2015 ISSUE

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