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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, December 2, 2014

**Chief of Brooklyn District Attorney's Conviction Review Unit  
To Receive Prestigious Thomas E. Dewey Medal**

*Assistant District Attorney Mark J. Hale To Be Honored By New York City Bar Association*

Brooklyn District Attorney Ken Thompson today announced that Assistant District Attorney Mark J. Hale, whose distinguished career has spanned more than 30 years in the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office, is to receive the prestigious Thomas E. Dewey Medal from the New York City Bar Association.

District Attorney Thompson said, "Mark Hale is a prosecutor who is dedicated to the pursuit of justice. His diligence in reviewing scores of cases where injustices may have occurred reflects the spirit of professionalism and integrity that Thomas Dewey brought to the District Attorney's Office – and that is precisely why I appointed Mark as Chief of my Conviction Review Unit last March. To date, 10 men have been exonerated this year as a result of their cases having been reviewed by the CRU."

The District Attorney said that ADA Hale is to receive the medal at a ceremony to be held tonight at the New York City Bar Association. ADA Hale began his career in the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office in 1983 and since then has handled more than 200 trials, many of them homicide cases. In light of his skill and experience in dealing with complex violent crimes, ADA Hale was appointed as Chief of the Conviction Review Unit and works closely with Harvard Law Professor Ronald Sullivan, Jr. The CRU is presently reviewing approximately 100 cases, the majority of which are homicides. ADA Hale graduated from The Ohio State University, College of Law.

The Thomas E. Dewey Medal is awarded each year by the Association of the Bar of the City of New York to an outstanding assistant district attorney in each of the City's five District Attorney's Offices and in the Office of the City's Special Narcotics Prosecutor. Thomas E. Dewey is noted for having ushered in the era in which District Attorney's offices are staffed by professional prosecutors chosen on merit rather than through political patronage. Dewey first came to the public's attention in the 1930s, bringing successful cases against gangsters, bootleggers and members of organized crime. By 1937 he was elected District Attorney of New York County. He served one term before resigning to run for Governor.

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