
Peter J. Macdonald Receives Boston University School of Law's Victor J. Garo Public Service Award

2011-10-14

On October 5, WilmerHale Partner [Peter J. Macdonald](#) received the Victor J. Garo Public Service Award from Boston University School of Law.

Macdonald was honored for his longstanding commitment to pro bono work, which most recently involved the defense of [Dewey Bozella](#), a man wrongly convicted of a murder he did not commit and imprisoned for more than 26 years. Macdonald led a team of WilmerHale associates who changed Bozella's life forever by uncovering new evidence—some of it more than 30 years old—and obtaining reversal of the wrongful conviction to secure Bozella's freedom.

This incredible story was the focus of a national broadcast in conjunction with Bozella's receipt of the Arthur Ashe Courage Award from television network ESPN. Macdonald continues to represent Bozella in a civil action against the individuals and municipalities that stole his freedom.

The Victor J. Garo Public Service Award honors Boston University School of Law alumni who have made pro bono work an integral part of their professional lives and have distinguished themselves for the quality of their work and its impact on the community. Macdonald is a 1984 graduate of Boston University School of Law, where he was editor of the *Boston*

