

DUNHAM & JONES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dunham & Jones Attorney Jessica Lieck Named Recipient of TCDLA 2026 Rising Star Award

AUSTIN, Texas — June 18, 2026 — Dunham & Jones is proud to announce that Attorney Jessica Lieck has been selected as a recipient of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (TCDLA) 2026 Rising Star Award.

The award will be presented during the TCDLA Awards Banquet at the 39th Annual Rusty Duncan Advanced Criminal Law Course, the premier seminar of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and one of the most respected criminal law conferences in the nation.

The Rising Star Award recognizes attorneys licensed fewer than ten years who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in the representation of citizens accused of crimes and/or significant contributions to the efforts of TCDLA.

Jessica's selection reflects a career marked by academic excellence, leadership within the criminal defense community, and a steadfast commitment to advocating for her clients.

At Dunham & Jones, Jessica practices criminal defense with a mitigation-first philosophy designed to reduce risk and preserve outcomes while preparing every case with the intensity and rigor required for trial.

Jessica graduated summa cum laude from Texas State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a minor in Criminal Justice before earning her Doctor of Jurisprudence from Texas Tech University School of Law with a concentration in Criminal Law and Innocence.

During law school, she served as a two-time President of the Criminal Law Association, President of the Texas Tech chapter of the National Lawyers Guild, and an Advisor on the Diversity Advisory Board. She also worked as a research assistant, served as a member of the Student Bar Association, and participated in the Criminal Defense Clinic as a State Bar Qualified Law Student.

Her academic achievements earned her multiple Top Grade awards in Criminal Defense Clinic, Texas Juvenile Law, and Capital Punishment Seminar. She was also the recipient of numerous scholarships and honors, including the Diversity Student Award and the Pro Bono Achievement Award for completing more than 200 hours of pro bono service.

Jessica remains actively involved with TCDLA, serving on both the New Lawyers Committee and the Law Students Committee. She has also been elected to the TCDLA Board of Directors for the 2026–2027 term.

In 2026, Jessica graduated from the TCDLA Tim Evans Texas Criminal Trial College, one of the state's premier trial advocacy programs. She has also been recognized as both a 2026 Super Lawyers Rising Star and a 2026 TCDLA Rising Star.

In addition to her work representing clients across Texas, Jessica has presented continuing legal education programs on mitigation, client control, and how young attorneys can gain valuable second-chair trial experience.

Jessica joins a distinguished group of attorneys honored by TCDLA for their contributions to criminal defense and their dedication to protecting the rights of Texans accused of crimes.

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About Dunham & Jones, Attorneys at Law, P.C.

Dunham & Jones, Attorneys at Law, P.C., is a Texas criminal defense firm that has represented clients facing serious criminal charges since 1989. The firm maintains offices in Amarillo, Austin, Bryan/College Station, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Denton, El Paso, Fort Worth, Georgetown, Houston, Killeen/Harker Heights, Lubbock, Midland, Plano, San Antonio, San Marcos, and Waco, and handles a full range of criminal matters, from misdemeanor offenses to complex felony cases.