

Grapeland Messenger (Grapeland, Texas)

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Sunday, September 26, 2010

Senator Ogden To Be Honored



Ogden

Staff Reporter

AUSTIN – The Texas Access to Justice Commission and Foundation will honor Senator Steve Ogden with the Texas Access to Justice Legislative Hero Award during a reception at 1 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 24, at the Lone Star Legal Aid

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office in Bryan, Texas. Texas Supreme Court Justice Nathan L. Hecht, the Court's liaison for access to justice issues, will present the award to Senator Ogden. The Legislative Hero Award recognizes legislators who, through their efforts, have significantly advanced access to justice in Texas by assisting with the appropriation of funds and/or other substantive activities related to the provision of legal aid in the state. Senator Ogden is being recognized for his outstanding leadership efforts to improve access to justice for poor and low-income Texans in the 81st Texas Legislature. Ogden's grasp of the funding gap for Texans in need of help with civil legal issues led to an historic appropriation of funding for civil legal services to poor Texans; an appropriation of more than \$20 million.

He is a leader in the Texas Senate on budget issues, criminal justice, school finance, higher education funding, child protection and transportation safety.

Ogden is a Republican member of the Texas Senate representing the 5th District which includes Houston County along with 18 other counties throughout central East Texas. Ogden was elected to the Texas Senate in January 1997, and chairs the powerful Texas Senate Finance Committee with consider-

able responsibility for formulating the state budget. He served three terms in the Texas House of Representatives before he was elected Senator for District 5. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Naval Academy and a Master of Business Administration degree at Texas A&M University.

Ogden has been in the oil and gas exploration business for 20 years and is currently president of Ogden Resources, an independent oil and gas company based in Bryan. Prior to entering the oil business, Ogden served as an officer in the U.S. Navy's nuclear submarine force for nine years.

As a State Senator, he has previously been honored by the Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association, the Texas Association of District and County Attorneys, Scott & White, The Texas A&M University System, the Texas Veterans Commission, the Texas Municipal Police Association, and the Free Market Committee. Senator Ogden received the sixth annual Bob Bullock Award for Outstanding Public Stewardship and was awarded the 2004 Defensor Pacem medal by Sam Houston State University. Following the 79th regular session of the Texas Legislature in 2005, he was named one of the Ten Best Legislators by Texas Monthly Magazine, a Top Legislator by Capital Inside, and Pro-Life Chairman of the Year by Texas Right to Life.