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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOI Foundation of Texas creates new endowment honoring Decherds

DALLAS _ The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas has established the Robert and Maureen Decherd Endowment to honor the Dallas couple and to support the foundation's open government and First Amendment mission.

The non-profit FOI Foundation announced creation of the endowment Friday in Dallas after honoring the Decherds with the John Henry Faulk Award for Civic Virtue.

The Decherd Endowment will be a permanent fund, created from the financial contributions of individuals and organizations and starting with a generous contribution of \$25,000 from Robert and Maureen Decherd.

The Decherds are also pledging a \$25,000 challenge grant to provide one additional dollar for every two dollars of new giving. By a target date of Oct. 31, 2014, the foundation seeks to raise \$50,000 in new contributions to fully realize the challenge grant and ensure a total of \$100,000 or more for the endowment.

Endowment income will assist the foundation's important programs, including efforts to protect the people's right to know, educational seminars on open government and outreach promoting freedom of the press.

The Decherds, along with Belo Corp., were instrumental in founding the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas more than 35 years ago. Robert Decherd served as the foundation's first president, from 1978-81. The foundation is a 501 (c)(3) organization and is one of the strongest advocates for open government and free speech in America. Previously created foundation endowments honor John Henry Faulk Award recipients Bill and Diana Hobby; Red and Charline McCombs; the late Bernard Rapoport and his wife Audre Rapoport; and the late Dolph and Janey Briscoe.

For more information on the foundation's Decherd Endowment, contact executive director Kelley Shannon at 512-377-1575 or [HYPERLINK](#)

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The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to enhancing the public's right to know about their government and other public entities. The organization is supported by tax-deductible donations, as well as grants from foundations and private citizens. More information is available at www.foift.org. The Freedom of Information Foundation's main offices are at 3001 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite 302 in Austin, Texas 78705.