

BAR ASSOCIATION OF ERIE COUNTY

ANNUAL AWARDS

ANNUAL DINNER PROGRAM

THE JOHN T. CURTIN PROFILES IN COURAGE AWARD



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OF ERIE COUNTY**

THE JOHN T. CURTIN PROFILES IN COURAGE AWARD

The John T. Curtin Profiles in Courage award recognizes the “truly historic tenure” of Hon. John T. Curtin. This award was created to recognize a distinguished practitioner who exemplifies the same “moral courage and sense of justice that Judge Curtin brought to the bench every day.”

Judge Curtin’s contributions to the Western District of New York were innumerable and significant throughout his 49-year career. In 1976, Judge Curtin ruled on the case *Arthur v. Nyquist*, which involved the integration of the Buffalo Public School District. Judge Curtin’s ruled that schools were “deliberately segregated” and that they would need to begin desegregation efforts immediately. In addition, Judge Curtin presided over The Buffalo Five trial involving the arrest of five individuals arrested for their break in to Buffalo’s Old Post Office in an attempt in 1971 to burn draft records. He also presided over the historic Love Canal Trial.

During his tenure on the federal bench, Judge Curtin served as the District’s Second Circuit Representative to the Judicial Conference of the United States. He was also a member of the Second Circuit Task Force on Gender, Racial & Ethnic Fairness in the Courts. Judge Curtin continued with a busy case load from 1989 until he assumed inactive senior status almost 27 years later on April 12, 2016 at the age of 94. His commitment to his work made a significant difference to the WDNY as he worked to reduce the volume of social security cases and other cases that may have been delayed in the system due to the case load of the district.

The John T. Curtin Profiles in Courage Award Past Recipients:

2017 Hon. John T. Curtin (*posthumously*)

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The John T. Curtin Profiles in Courage Award Nomination Form

A résumé or similar biographical material for the nominee should accompany this form.
This nomination must be submitted by *March 9, 2018* to:

Awards Committee
Bar Association of Erie County
438 Main Street, Sixth Floor, Buffalo, New York 14202

NOMINEE: _____

TITLE OR POSITION: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____ FAX: _____ E-MAIL: _____

NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY:

NAME: _____

TITLE/AFFILIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____ FAX: _____ E-MAIL: _____

In the space provided below, please provide as much supporting information regarding the nominee's qualifications for this award. Please continue on the backside or use additional sheets if necessary.

