

**BAR ASSOCIATION OF ERIE COUNTY**

**ANNUAL AWARDS**

**PRESENTED TO ATTORNEYS/JUDGES**

*ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM*



**BAR ASSOCIATION**  
OF ERIE COUNTY

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*LAWYER OF THE YEAR AWARD*



**BAR ASSOCIATION**  
OF ERIE COUNTY

## LAWYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Lawyer of the Year award is presented annually to recognize outstanding service and dedication to the legal profession and the Bar Association of Erie County which:

- Promotes the good will of the profession.
- Fosters respect for the legal profession.
- Elevates the standard of integrity, honor and courtesy in the legal profession.
- Encourages the spirit of fellowship among members of the Bar.
- Protects and promotes the interests of the people and the members of the bar, the legal profession and the administration of justice.
- Promotes the maintenance and protection of American institutions and principles.

### Lawyer of the Year Award Past Recipients:

1965	George Wanamaker	1995	John W. Condon, Jr.
1966	John Lesswing	1996	Richard N. Blewett
1967	William H. Gage	1997	Victor T. Fuzak
1968	Hon. Carlton A. Fisher	1998	James L. Magavern
1969	Chester A. Pearlman	1999	Grace Marie Ange
1970	Eugene M. Downey	2000	Paul Michael Hassett
1971	Howard Starrett ( <i>posthumously</i> )	2001	Paul W. Beltz
1972	Samuel Battaglia	2002	David R. Pfalzgraf
1973	John Leach	2003	Lawrence J. Wagner
1974	Philip H. Magner, Jr.	2004	Joel L. Daniels
1975	M. Robert Koren	2005	John H. Napier
1976	Joseph P. Runfola	2006	Courtland R. LaVallee
1977	Aaron Weinstein	2007	Jeffrey M. Freedman
1978	William B. Mahoney	2008	Francis X. Carroll
1979	Adelbert Fleischmann	2009	David Gerald Jay
1980	Edmund S. Brown, Sr.	2010	Terrence M. Connors
1981	Stanley G. Falk	2011	Gayle L. Eagan
1982	Hon. Walter J. Mahoney ( <i>posthumously</i> )	2012	Vincent E. Doyle III
1983	Frank G. Raichle, Jr.	2013	Helen Ferraro-Zaffram
1984	J. Eugene McMahan	2014	Diane F. Bosse
1985	Philip J. O'Shea, Sr. ( <i>posthumously</i> )	2015	Joseph M. Hanna
1986	Howard T. Saperston	2016	John R. Nuchereno ( <i>posthumously</i> )
1987	Maryann Saccomando Freedman	2017	Kenneth A. Manning
1988	John T. Frizzell	2018	Karen L. Nicolson
1989	Charles H. Dougherty	2019	Melinda G. Disare
1990	Hon. Norman Stiller	2020	John V. Elmore
1991	Robert D. Fernbach	2021	Robert M. Elardo
1992	William R. Brennan	2022	Hon. Trini E. Ross
1993	Joseph D. Bermingham, Jr.	2023	Michele A. Brown
1994	Daniel T. Roach		



**BAR ASSOCIATION OF ERIE COUNTY**

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*THE JOHN T. CURTIN PROFILES IN COURAGE AWARD*



**BAR ASSOCIATION**  
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 ( <i>posthumously</i> )
2018	James P. Harrington
2019	Maryann Saccomando Freedman
2020	Herbert L. Greenman
2021	Hon. Hugh B. Scott ( <i>posthumously</i> )
2022	Lawyers Helping Lawyers Committee
2023	Hon. Susan M. Eagan

**BAR ASSOCIATION OF ERIE COUNTY  
ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM**

**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 1, 2024* 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. \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

***NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY:***

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE/AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ 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.*

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**BAR ASSOCIATION OF ERIE COUNTY**

**ANNUAL AWARDS**

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**ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM**

*OUTSTANDING JURIST AWARD*



**BAR ASSOCIATION**  
OF ERIE COUNTY



## **OUTSTANDING JURIST AWARD**

The Outstanding Jurist award is not presented annually but when there exists a jurist whose career exemplifies the highest standards of judicial conduct for integrity, impartiality and independence; who is knowledgeable of the law and faithful to it; who is not influenced by partisan interests, public clamor or fear of criticism; who is patient, dignified and courteous to all who appear before him or her; and who endeavors to improve the administration of justice and respect for the rule of law.

### **Outstanding Jurist Award Past Recipients:**

1976	Hon. Carmen F. Ball	2000	N/A
	Hon. Norman A. Stiller	2001	Hon. Sharon Seide Townsend
1977	Hon. John T. Curtin	2002	Hon. David J. Mahoney
1978	N/A		Hon. Joseph P. McCarthy
1979	Hon. H. Buswell Roberts	2003	N/A
1980	Hon. James B. Kane	2004	Hon. John P. Lane
1981	N/A	2005	Hon. John T. Elfvin
1982	N/A	2006	Hon. Eugene F. Pigott, Jr.
1983	Hon. Norman J. Wolf, Jr.	2007	Hon. Michael F. Griffith
1984	N/A	2008	Hon. Rose H. Sconiers
1985	Hon. John T. Curtin	2009	Hon. Joseph D. Mintz
1986	N/A	2010	Hon. Thomas P. Franczyk
1987	N/A	2011	Hon. Kevin M. Dillon
1988	Hon. Vincent E. Doyle, Jr.	2012	Hon. Thomas P. Amodeo
1989	Hon. Frederick M. Marshall	2013	Hon. William M. Skretny
1990	Hon. Victor E. Manz	2014	Hon. Jeremiah J. McCarthy
1991	Hon. Edmund F. Maxwell	2015	Hon. Eugene M. Fahey
1992	N/A	2016	Hon. Robert T. Russell, Jr.
1993	Hon. M. Dolores Denman	2017	Hon. Barbara Howe
1994	Hon. Henry H. Gossel	2018	Hon. Craig D. Hannah
1995	Hon. Samuel L. Green	2019	Hon. Sharon M. LoVallo
1996	Hon. Richard D. Simons	2020	Hon. Erin M. Peradotto
1997	Hon. John H. Doerr	2021	Hon. Paula L. Feroletto
1998	Hon. Jerome C. Gorski	2022	Hon. Lisa Bloch Rodwin
1999	Hon. Leo J. Fallon	2023	Hon. Acea M. Mosey

**BAR ASSOCIATION OF ERIE COUNTY  
ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM**

**Outstanding Jurist Award Nomination Form**

A résumé or similar biographical material for the nominee should accompany this form.  
This nomination must be submitted by **March 1, 2024** 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. \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

***NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY:***

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE/AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ 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.*

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**BAR ASSOCIATION OF ERIE COUNTY**

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**ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM**

*AWARD OF MERIT*



**BAR ASSOCIATION**  
OF ERIE COUNTY

## **AWARD OF MERIT**

There is no specific criteria for the Award of Merit which is reserved to recognize extraordinary circumstances.

### **Award of Merit Past Recipients:**

1978	George L. Cownie Dennis Denny
1985	Eugene C. Tenney William J. Cunningham, Jr.
1986	Philip H. Magner, Jr.
1990	David Gerald Jay
1994	Hon. James B. Kane
1995	Edward P. Jesella, Jr.
1996	Thomas H. Burton
1997	Lillian E.G. Cowan
2000	Hon. Jerome C. Gorski Herbert H. Blumberg
2001	Diane F. Bosse
2002	Hon. Michael A. Battle
2003	Hon. Robert T. Russell, Jr.
2004	Albert Mugel ( <i>posthumously</i> )
2005	Paul J. Smaldone
2006	no award presented
2007	no award presented
2008	Sharon Stern Gerstman
2009	Robert M. Elardo
2010	Scott A. Bylewski
2011	E.W. Dann Stevens ( <i>posthumously</i> )
2012	Howard B. Frank and Mark W. Hamberger
2013	James P. Harrington and Michael S. Taheri
2014	Marianne Mariano
2015	Hon. Frederick J. Marshall
2016	Sharon A. Thomas ( <i>posthumously</i> )
2017	Marilyn A. Hochfield
2018	William Mattar
2019	David G. Henry
2020	Hon. Margaret Szczur
2021	Andrew B. Isenberg & Daniel J. Marren
2022	Hugh M. Russ, III
2023	Robert J. Feldman ( <i>posthumously</i> )



**BAR ASSOCIATION OF ERIE COUNTY**  
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*SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD*



**BAR ASSOCIATION**  
OF ERIE COUNTY

## **SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD**

The Special Service award is given to a lawyer whose exceptional service to the profession has contributed to the good and welfare of the Bar Association of Erie County and its members.

### **Special Service Award Past Recipients:**

1974	John B. Walsh	1996	Linda L. Kaumeyer
1978	William P. Bellas		Hon. James H. Dillon
	Harold J. Brand, Jr.	1997	Charles H. Dougherty
	William J. Cunningham, Jr.	1998	Nancy W. Saia
	Jack L. Green		John P. Freedenberg
	William R. Kneeland	1999	Helen Ferraro-Zaffram
	William Levitt		Francis X. Carroll
	Morris Mesch	2000	Robert J. White
	Myra S. Stuart		John J. Aman
	Richard T. Sullivan	2001	Michelle A. Crew
1979	Bruce A. Goldstein		Susan Etu Eagan
1980	Robert J. Kresse	2002	Frank J. Boccio, Chief Clerk <i>Erie County Family Court</i>
	Peter J. Brevorka		
	Franklin Pack	2003	Martin J. Violante, Court Attorney Referee <i>Eighth Judicial District</i>
1981	Joseph A. Schime <i>Chief Clerk, Surrogate's Court</i>	2004	Karen L. Nicolson
1982	William H. Gage	2005	Glenn E. Murray
1983	Maryann Saccomando Freedman		Richard S. Kwieciak
1984	Anne (Nancy) M. Moore	2006	Sheila Weir Schwanekamp
1985	John A. Boccio ( <i>posthumously</i> )		Dennis Bischof
	David J. Mahoney	2007	Real Property Law Sub-Committee: Michael Lombardo, Kenneth Redding, Nancy Saia, W. Clark Trow
1986	Susan Ostrowski Beale <i>Lawyers Helping Lawyers</i>		
1987	Harold J. Brand, Jr.	2008	Lawyers Helping Lawyers Committee
1988	Thomas M. Burke	2009	Daniel T. Lukasik
1989	Richard F. Griffin	2010	Robert H. Lawrence
	Oliver C. Young		John Nuchereno
1990	Ferdinand J. Ciccarelli	2011	not given
	Morris Mesch	2012	William R. Hites and Harry G. Meyer
	Richard C. Panepinto ( <i>posthumously</i> )	2013	not given
1991	John T. Smythe	2014	Julie Loesch
1992	Daniel F. Novak	2015	David L. Sweet
1993	Hon. Irving Fudeman ( <i>posthumously</i> )	2016	William W. Berry
	Keith A. Morgenheim	2017	Mark R. McNamara
	Hon. Elloeen D. Oughterson	2018	Roderick Quebral & Gregory T. Miller ( <i>posthumously</i> )
1994	Harold J. Boreanaz ( <i>posthumously</i> )		
	Sharon Stern Gerstman	2019	Hon. Thomas P. Franczyk
	James A. Locke	2020	Anna Marie Richmond
1995	Sanford C. Kulick ( <i>posthumously</i> )	2021	Daniel E. Barry, Jr.
	Lynn A. Clarke	2022	Samantha I.V. White
		2023	Jill K. Bond





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*CHARLES H. DOUGHERTY CIVILITY AWARD*



**BAR ASSOCIATION**  
OF ERIE COUNTY

## **CHARLES H. DOUGHERTY CIVILITY AWARD**

The "Civility Award" is presented to a distinguished practitioner who exemplifies the same sense of civility and decorum that characterized the career of the Association's former president, Charles H. Dougherty who was always forthright and scrupulously fair, and elevated the standard of integrity, honor and courtesy in the legal profession.

### **Civility Award Past Recipients:**

2006	John Cegielski ( <i>posthumously</i> )
2007	John L. Kirschner Joseph C. Vispi
2008	Douglas S. Coppola
2009	Richard N. Blewett Joseph B. Mistrett
2010	John F. Canale
2011	Hon. Hugh B. Scott
2012	Michael J. Roach
2013	Richard F. Griffin and Scott M. Schwartz
2014	Oliver C. Young and Mary Catherine "Katie" Baumgarten
2015	John C. Doscher and James P. Renda
2016	William J. Kita
2017	Nelson F. Zakia
2018	John J. Aman
2019	Kevin D. Robinson
2020	David R. Addelman ( <i>posthumously</i> )
2021	Hon. E. Jeannette Ogden
2022	Joel L. Daniels
2023	Hon. David L. Edmunds, Jr.

