

## **2005 Professional Lawyer of the Year Award Winners**

**Mary Jean Gallagher, Daniel J. O'Hern Award.** Ms. Gallagher is a solo practitioner in Bloomfield who has specialized in family law for the past twenty-nine years. She served as president of the Essex County Bar Association in 1990-1991 and has held numerous positions within the association including chair of the Family Law Committee and chair of the Individual Rights Committee. In 2000 Gallagher received the Trial Bar Award from the Trial Attorneys of New Jersey. In 1998 she was selected by the Commission on Professionalism in the Law and the Essex County Bar Association for a Professional Lawyer of the Year Award.

**Ivette Ramos Alvarez, Hispanic Bar Association.** Ms. Alvarez is counsel at Einhorn, Ascher, Barbarito, Frost & Ironson in Denville. She is president-elect of the Hispanic Bar Association and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey State Bar Association. Ms. Alvarez is past chair of the District V-C Fee Arbitration Committee and has been appointed to a number of Supreme Court committees, including the Family Law Practice Committee. She is a graduate of the State University of New York at Albany and Columbia University School of Law.

**Philip G. Auerbach, Trial Attorneys of New Jersey.** Mr. Auerbach has been a trial lawyer for over forty years and has been recognized for his achievements by the Trial Attorneys of New Jersey. He taught extensively for the Institute for Continuing Legal Education (ICLE) and received the Clapp Award from ICLE for his efforts. Mr. Auerbach is an adjunct professor at Rutgers Law School – Newark and he teaches intensive trial techniques at Willamette Law School in Oregon. He is a graduate of Ohio State University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

**Richard J. Badolato, New Jersey State Bar Association.** Mr. Badolato is a partner in the Connell Foley law firm in Roseland. He is a past president of the New Jersey State Bar Association and the Essex County Bar Association, and currently serves as chair of the NJ Commission on Professionalism in the Law. Mr. Badolato is a member of the Supreme Court's Advisory Committee on Professional Ethics. He has served in the American Bar Association House of Delegates and is active in the National Association of Bar Presidents. Mr. Badolato is a graduate of Fairfield University and Rutgers School of Law.

**Thomas E. Bracken, Sussex County Bar Association.** Mr. Bracken recently retired from the Sussex County Prosecutors Office. After a judicial clerkship in Hudson County, he joined the Office of the Public Defender and handled both trial and appellate assignments. He subsequently joined the Sussex County Prosecutors Office on a part-time basis and undertook a general law practice. When the office converted to full-time status he remained as a career prosecutor. Mr. Bracken is a graduate of St. John's University and Seton Hall University School of Law.

**Alan J. Cohen, Atlantic County Bar Association.** Mr. Cohen is a partner in the Northfield law firm of McAllister, Hyberg, White & Cohen. He is a Certified Civil Trial

Attorney and a frequent lecturer for ICLE, including presentations to newly admitted lawyers on civil trial skills. Mr. Cohen is past chair of the District I Ethics Committee, is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of the Atlantic County Bar Association, and is on the executive committee of the Vincent Haneman Inn of Court. He is a graduate of Muhlenberg College and Pepperdine University Law School.

**Edward J. Glynn, Warren County Bar Association.** Mr. Glynn is a partner in the Phillipsburg law firm of Winegar, Wilhelm, Glynn & Roemersma. He served on the District XII Ethics Committee, and prior to entering private practice in Warren County, he was an Assistant Prosecutor in Bergen County where he was Grand Jury Chief. Mr. Glynn is a member of the Harmony Township Board of Education and is active in local community affairs. He is a graduate of the University of Scranton and Seton Hall University School of Law.

**Jonathan I. Epstein, Mercer County Bar Association.** Mr. Epstein is the managing partner in the Princeton law office of Drinker Biddle. He is past president of the Mercer County Bar Association, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Legal Aid Society of Mercer County, and a past member of the District VII Ethics Committee. Mr. Epstein has taught a clinic on civil litigation at Seton Hall Law School and currently is a Master in the Mercer County Inn of Court. He is a graduate of Hobart College and Rutgers University School of Law – Newark.

**Paul H. Frankel, Monmouth Bar Association.** Mr. Frankel is a partner in Morrison and Foster's New York City office, and prior to joining the firm was counsel to W.R. Grace & Co. and a senior trial counsel with the Internal Revenue Service. He is currently chair of Tax Management Inc.'s State Tax Advisory Board, and a member of the New York City Tax Appeals Advisory Committee and the CCH State Tax Advisory Board. Mr. Frankel has written extensively on taxation issues for BNA and other publishers. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College and the University of Virginia School of Law

**Lisa James-Beavers, Association of Black Women Lawyers.** Ms. James-Beavers is executive director of the School Ethics Commission in the Department of Education, a body that governs the conduct of school board members and administrators. She is past president of the New Jersey State Bar Foundation, an organization she has served in many leadership capacities. Ms. James-Beavers served on the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey State Bar Association and the IOLTA Fund. She is a graduate of Rutgers College and Villanova University School of Law.

**Julius N. Konschak, Cape May County Bar Association.** Mr. Konschak is a partner in the Ocean City law firm of Serber Konschak. He is past president of the Cape May County Bar Association, a founding trustee and past president of the Cape May County Bar Foundation and past chair of the District I Ethics Committee. Mr. Konschak has served on the New Jersey State Bar Association Board of Trustees and on the NJSBA's Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

**Richard S. Lehrich, Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.** Mr. Lehrich practices law in Cranford. He is a past president of the Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and has been a member of the Supreme Court's Criminal Practice Committee and Committee on Model Jury Charges, as well as past chair of the Criminal Law Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association. Mr. Lehrich is a past trustee of the Union County Legal Services Corp. and currently serves as a Master in the Richard J. Hughes Inn of Court. He is a graduate of Rutgers College and Yale University School of Law.

**Martha D. Lynes, Hudson County Bar Association.** Ms. Lynes is a partner in the law firm of Kramkowski, Lynes, Fabricant & Bressler in Fairfield. An active member of the Hudson County Bar Association, she serves on the association's Professionalism Committee. She is a former member of the District VI Fee Arbitration Committee. Ms. Lynes is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University and Seton Hall University School of Law.

**Lynn F. Miller, New Jersey Women Lawyers Association.** Ms. Miller is a partner in the New Brunswick law firm of Miller, Miller & Tucker, and currently serves on the NJSBA Board of Trustees. She has been chair of both the NJSBA's Women in the Profession Section and Individual Rights Committee. Ms. Miller is a trustee of the Middlesex County Bar Foundation and has served in leadership positions in the Middlesex County Bar Association. She received the Equal Justice Medal from Legal Services of New Jersey in 2004. Ms. Miller is a graduate of Barnard College and Rutgers School of Law.

**Ralph J. Padovano, Bergen County Bar Association.** Mr. Padovano is a partner in the Montvale law firm of Beattie Padovano. An active member of the Bergen County Bar Association, he has served on the association's Board of Trustees, and as chair or a member of numerous committees, including the Professionalism in the Law Committee. He is past chair of the District II Ethics Committee. Mr. Padovano's community activities include service as president of local Rotary and UNICO chapters. Mr. Padovano is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University and Seton Hall University School of Law.

**Mary Lou Parker, Morris County Bar Association.** Ms. Parker is a partner in the Pitney Hardin law firm of Morristown. She is a Fellow of both the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and the American Bar Foundation. Ms. Parker has served as president of the New Jersey State Bar Foundation and as a member of the NJSBA Board of Trustees, and is past chair of the association's Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section. She is a frequent lecturer and author on estate planning and administration issues. Ms. Parker is a graduate of Immaculata College and Seton Hall University School of Law.

**Martin G. Pacillo, Essex County Bar Association.** Mr. Pacillo is a partner in the Nutley law firm of Pacillo, Caruso & O'Toole. He is a past president of the Essex County Bar Association and has served the association in other leadership roles. Mr. Pacillo has long been active in community affairs and in Italian American service organizations. He is past national president of both UNICO and the National Italian American Coordinating

Association and has been honored by these associations. Mr. Pacillo is a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and Georgetown Law Center.

**Rocky L. Peterson, Garden State Bar Association.** Mr. Peterson is a partner in the Princeton law firm of Hill Wallack. He is past chair of the Supreme Court's Disciplinary Review Board. Mr. Peterson served as director of law for the City of Trenton and was also counsel to the City Council. Long active in organized bar groups, he is past chair of the NJSBA's Minorities in the Profession Committee and Bar-Law School Liaison Committee. He has lectured at Widener School of Law and Mercer County College. Mr. Peterson is a graduate of Cornell University and Cornell University Law School.

**Walter J. Ray, Salem County Bar Association.** Mr. Ray is a partner in the Pennsville law firm of Masten & Ray. He is a past president of the Salem County Bar Association and a former member of the Board of Governors of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America-NJ. Mr. Ray is former chairman of the Salem County Civil Bar Panel and is a member of the National Panel of Arbitrators of the American Arbitration Association. He is a graduate of Villanova University and Delaware School of Law of Widener University.

**Hon. Rosemary K. Reavey, Middlesex County Bar Association.** Judge Reavey is retired from the New Jersey Superior Court, having served on the bench for twenty-one years. She was appointed to the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in 1979 and subsequently served in both the Civil and Criminal Divisions of Superior Court. She was a member of numerous committees appointed by the Supreme Court including the Judicial Evaluation Committee and the Model Civil Jury Charge Committee, which she chaired. Judge Reavey is a graduate of Douglass College and Rutgers Law School.

**Robert T. Rosenberg, Ocean County Bar Association.** Mr. Rosenberg is a partner in the Toms River law firm of Rosenberg, Kirby, Cahill & Stankowitz. He served as municipal prosecutor in a number of boroughs in Ocean County and is a frequent lecturer on criminal law topics for law enforcement agencies, including the State Police. Mr. Rosenberg is co-chair of the Ocean County Bar Association's Criminal Practice Committee and past chair of the Municipal Court Practice Committee. He is a graduate of Montclair State College and Rutgers School of Law.

**Edward D. Sheehan, Camden County Bar Association.** Mr. Sheehan is a partner in the Camden law firm of Dubois, Sheehan, Hamilton & Levin. He is a past president of the Camden County Bar Association, and in 1997 received the Peter J. Devine Award for exceptional service to the organized bar. Mr. Sheehan's involvement in civic organizations is extensive, including leadership positions in the American Heart Association, Greenbriar Day and West Jersey Health and Hospital System. He is a graduate of St. Joseph's College and Rutgers Law School-Camden.

**Michael L. Testa, Sr. Cumberland County Bar Association.** Mr. Testa is a partner in the Vineland law firm of Basile & Testa. He is a past president of the New Jersey affiliate of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America and has been certified as both a Civil

Trial Attorney and a Criminal Trial Attorney. Mr. Testa is a frequent lecturer for ATLA, ICLE and other organizations on civil trial topics and strategies. He has served on the District I Ethics Committee. Mr. Testa is a graduate of Villanova University and Villanova University School of Law.

**Joseph S. Trapanese, Passaic County Bar Association.** Mr. Trapanese practices law with his son in the law firm Trapanese & Trapanese in Little Falls. He is a past president of the Passaic County Bar Association and president-elect of the Passaic County Trial Lawyers Association. Mr. Trapanese sat on the New Jersey State Bar Association's Board of Trustees and served on the association's Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee. He is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University and Case Western Reserve School of Law.

**Alison Dyer Trofimov, Hunterdon County Bar Association.** Ms. Trofimov is a solo practitioner in Lebanon. She is a past president of the Hunterdon County Bar Association and has served the association in numerous leadership positions. Ms. Trofimov is currently co-chair of the Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee, and has for ten years been co-chair of the Family Practice Committee. She is a founding member of the Hunterdon County Women's Business Forum. Ms. Trofimov is a graduate of Douglass College and Rutgers School of Law-Newark.

**Peter Tu, Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association.** Mr. Tu is associate general counsel for Savient Pharmaceuticals in East Brunswick. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey State Bar Association and has served the association as chair of the Minorities in the Profession Section and as a member of numerous committees. Mr. Tu has been appointed by the Supreme Court to the Ad Hoc Committee on Bar Admissions, Committee on Model Jury Charges and the District VIII Ethics Committee. He is a graduate of MIT, received an MBA from Seton Hall University and a law degree from Seton Hall University School of Law.

**Yves C. Veenstra, Burlington County Bar Association.** Mr. Veenstra is a partner in the law firm of Parker McKay in Marlton. He is a past president of the Trial Attorneys of New Jersey and is a Fellow of both the American College of Trial Lawyers and American Bar Foundation. He has served as chair of the Burlington County Bar Association's Judicial Evaluation Committee and Municipal Court Committee. Mr. Veenstra is a speaker and author for ICLE. He is a graduate of Monmouth College and Rutgers School of Law- Camden.

**Thomas H. Ward, Gloucester County Bar Association.** Mr. Ward is a partner in the law firm of Albertson Ward of Woodbury. He has served as chair of the Gloucester County Bar Association's Professionalism Committee, the Supreme Court's District IV Fee Arbitration Committee, and the Community Mental Health Center. He has been counsel to newspapers in Camden, Gloucester and Salem Counties and has served in a variety of appointed governmental positions in Gloucester County. Mr. Ward is a graduate of LaSalle University and Suffolk University Law School.

**Amy Wechsler, Somerset County Bar Association.** Ms. Wechsler is a partner in the law firm of Copeland, Shimalla & Wechsler in Warren. She has been designated by the Supreme Court as a Certified Matrimonial Attorney, is former director of the Association of Professional Mediators and is co-founder of the Somerset County Custody Mediation Program. Ms. Wechsler is former chair of the District XIII Ethics Committee and is currently a trustee of the Somerset County Bar Association. She is a graduate of the University of Connecticut and Rutgers Law School – Newark.

**Jack Wurgaft, Union County Bar Association.** Mr. Wurgaft is a partner in the law firm of Javerbaum Wurgaft Hicks & Zarin in Springfield. He is a Certified Civil Trial Attorney, past president of the American Board of Trial Advocates and a frequent lecturer on civil practice for ATLA-NJ and the Institute for Continuing Legal Education. Mr. Wurgaft is a Master of the Richard J. Hughes Inn of Court and a member of the Bench-Bar Committees in Union and Essex Counties. He is a graduate of Rutgers University and New York Law School.