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Distinguished Alumni Honored at 1988 Annual Dinner

Three outstanding Buffalo attorneys accepted Distinguished Alumnus/a Awards from Robert W. Keller, 1987-88 president of the UB Law Alumni Association, at their 26th Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner. The event, which is the alumni organization's major fundraiser, was held on Friday, April 29th in the ballroom of the Buffalo Hilton Hotel.

State Supreme Court Justice Theodore S. Kasler, a member of the class of 1953, was cited “For his diligence and for his conscientious performance in the judiciary.” Elected to State Supreme Court in 1974, he has been supervising judge for all criminal courts in the eight county Western New York area since 1978. A graduate of Canisius College, he served as a deputy corporation counsel, city court judge and assistant district attorney before being elected to the Supreme Court.

Maryann S. Freedman, former president of the New York Bar Association, was honored “For her leadership by example
and for her commitment to public service.”

A 1958 graduate of UB Law, she spent time in private practice, then went to work as a research assistant for Buffalo City Court. She became an assistant attorney general in 1975. Since 1977, she has served as confidential law clerk to Justice William J. Ostrouski of the State Supreme Court.

William R. Brennan received the award “For his dedication to the profession and for enhancing the image of the private practitioner.” He is a partner in the Buffalo law firm of Moot & Sprague. A graduate of Holy Cross College and UB Law, class of 1948, he has practiced law continuously in Buffalo, where he is an active member of numerous civic and legal organizations.

The awards were established by the Association’s board of directors in 1963 to recognize the valuable contributions UB Law School graduates have made to their profession and community.

University President Steven B. Sample, Provost William R. Greiner, and Dean David B. Filvaroff were among those who participated. Thomas M. Ward and Michael Swart headed the dinner committee, which included Robert B. Moriarty, Eugene F. Piggott, Jr., Jean C. Powers, Elaine E. Salvo and Oliver C. Young.