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Five Distinguished Alumni Receive Awards

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reporting role and expresses an opinion.” The News editorialized in favor of the new domestic violence law, she said, and occasionally writes about failings in the police and justice systems that treat domestic violence “less seriously than it should be treated.”

The convocation received major sponsorship from Marine Midland Bank, with additional support from Harold C. Brown & Co. Investment Services, Snyder Corp/Hyatt Regency Buffalo, and the Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Co.

At a luncheon that followed the morning’s presentations, the Edwin F. Jaeckle Award — the Law School’s highest honor — was presented to attorney Arnold B. Gardner and State Sen. Dale M. Volker.

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Justice Doyle, recently appointed Administrative Judge of the New York State Supreme Court, Eighth Judicial District, was recognized “for his conscientious and diligent performance in the judiciary,” where he has served for over 15 years. Doyle began his career as a trial lawyer, first as a public defender and later as a partner in the Buffalo law firm of Doyle, Diebold, Birmingham, Gorman & Brown.

He is presiding member of the Council of Judicial Associations and chairman of the Continuing Legal Education Committee for the New York State Bar Association. Doyle also lectures at the law school and for the Office of Court Administration, New York State Bar Association and the Erie County Bar Association. He is a former president of the Erie County Bar Association and the New York State Association of Judges of the Supreme Court. Previous honors include the 1993 Erie County Bar Association Matrimonial and Family Law Committee Outstanding Jurist Award and the 1988 Erie County Bar Association’s Outstanding Jurist Award.

Terrence Connors was honored “for his leadership by example as a private practitioner.” A trial attorney for over 23 years, he founded the law firm of Connors & Vilaro approximately eight years ago, concentrating in the area of litigation. Included among the firm’s clientele is the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo.

Connors teaches Trial Technique at UB Law School and is a frequent lecturer and author on trial practice for the New York State and Erie County Bar Associations. Last year, Connors headed Buffalo Mayor Anthony Masiello’s transition team. He is a fellow of the American College of Trial
Lawyers and the New York Bar Foundation, and is a member of the board of governors of the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association.

Winnie F. Taylor, a professor of law at Cornell Law School, has been teaching law for over 15 years. She was lauded by the Association "for her commitment to public service."

Upon graduation from UB Law, Taylor practiced with the Buffalo law firm of Harris, Beach & Wilcox for two years before pursuing a career in legal education. She went on to obtain her L.L.M. from University of Wisconsin because of her concern regarding consumer issues, particularly in relation to gaining credit access.

Taylor was a faculty member of the University of Florida at Gainesville for 11 years before joining Cornell Law School, where she has recently taught the Uniform Commercial Code, sales, contracts, credit discrimination and various courses on consumer law.

She has been a legal consultant to the Credit Union National Association, the Federal Reserve Board Consumer Advisory Council and the American Bankers Association, among others.

James L. Magavern, a member of the Buffalo law firm of Magavern, Magavern & Grimm, was recognized "for his contributions to the community." Magavern's multifaceted career includes teaching at UB Law since 1963. From 1969 to 1970, he was assistant to the president of the State University of New York.

He has worked in the Philippines with the International Legal Center, the Korian Housing Urban & Regional Planning Institute, and as a United Nations expert in legal aspects of urban and regional planning. He also served as a senior fellow for the East-West Center, a Honolulu program on law in the city.

Magavern has devoted a portion of his career to state and local government, serving as a county attorney, as counsel to the controller of the State of New York and as co-counsel to the New York State commission on eminent domain.

A former president of the Erie County Bar Association, he was a member of the New York State commission on government integrity, served on Mayor Masiello's transition team, and was chairman of the panel to review the code of ethics of the City of Buffalo.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Magavern is secretary of Buffalo Prep Inc., and serves on numerous other boards, including the Buffalo Hearing and Speech Center, Community Music School, YMCA of Buffalo and Erie County and Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo. He is a former co-chair of the Citizens Council on Human Relations and past president of Friendship House.

Owen Mangan, vice president and counsel to Ticor Title Guarantee Co., was honored "for his exemplary performance in business." He has established himself as an expert in the area of title law, always offering his assistance to area attorneys from either large firms or individual practices.

Mangan first practiced privately with Jasen, Manz & Johnson and after Judge Jasen's election to the bench, with Manz, Johnson & Bayger. Later, he practiced with the firm of Saperston, Wiltsie, Day, and Wilson.

A member of the New York State Bar Association, Mangan serves as co-chairman of its Title and Transfer Committee. He is also a member of the Erie County Bar Association.

Left to right: Hon. Vincent E. Doyle Jr. '56, Terrence M. Connors '71, Professor Winnie F. Taylor '75, James L. Magavern '59 and Owen F. Mangan '56