

# Award for Erie Bar's New Committee

**T**HE NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE OF BAR LEADERS bestowed an Award of Merit on the Bar Association of Erie County, at its annual breakfast on February 1st during the State Bar Association's Annual Meeting.

The Awards of Merit are presented in recognition of local, county, minority, ethnic, specialty and women's bar associations in New York for outstanding service to the public and the profession through innovative projects and programs that enhance public understanding of the law and the best interests of the public.

BAEC received the award in the category for large bar associations — with 2,000 or more members.

They received the recognition for creating the Committee to Assist Lawyers with Depression, which provides referrals and support resources for lawyers suffering from depression — clearly demonstrating a strong commitment

BAEC also has a Lawyers Helping Lawyers Confidential channel of communication for attorney-related difficulties. ■



Forrest Strauss, Chair of the Conference of Bar Leaders, pictured with Cheryl Smith Fisher, BAEC President, and Dan Lukasik, Committee organizer.  
Photo: Colleen Brescia