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**NEW YORK BAR FOUNDATION PRESENTS GRANT TO
LEGAL ASSISTANCE OF WESTERN NEW YORK, INC.**



Staff paralegal Tami Sprague, Staff Attorney Deirdresha Wint, Staff Attorney Gavin Reynolds, AmeriCorps Paralegal Kristen Scherb, Supervising Attorney Kate Woods, Staff Paralegal Bruce Stahl, NYBF Board Member Carla Palumbo, Executive Director C. Kenneth Perri, Managing Attorney Keith McCafferty, Administrator Ellen Pfeif, and Equal Justice Works Fellow Melissa Molfetas.

The New York Bar Foundation recently presented a grant of \$5,000 to Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc., Geneva, NY. The grant will be used to support their Veterans Pro Bono Project.

In January 2014, LawNY® launched the Veterans Pro Bono project, a new and innovative project to help veterans file fully developed claims for VA disability benefits, and to assist with other VA benefits issues, such as military discharge upgrades. The project is based at the VA Medical Center in Canandaigua, NY where veterans can consult with their pro bono attorneys at the same location where they receive other veterans services.

“The money we received from The New York Bar Foundation will allow LawNY® to expand on its existing pro bono model, creating new connections in western New York's veteran community,” states Managing Attorney Keith McCafferty.

In early 2016, The New York Bar Foundation allocated over \$580,000 in grants to 99 programs across New York State. Each of the 13 Judicial Districts received at least one grant. These grants assist in:

- Increasing public understanding of the law
- Improving the justice system and the law
- Facilitating the delivery of legal services
- Enhancing professional competence and ethics

President of The New York Bar Foundation, John H. Gross of Ingerman Smith, LLP (Hauppauge, NY) states, “The Foundation is committed to providing legal assistance to those in need across New York State. Having served as an officer in the United States Army, Military Police Corps I am cognizant of the need of our veterans. Legal Assistance Of Western New York is to be commended for their efforts in recognizing the need of those who have served to protect us in some of the rural counties within New York.”

The New York Bar Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the New York State Bar Association. To learn more about The Foundation and how you can support its charitable programs, go to www.tnybf.org, phone 518-487-5651 or email nybarfoundation@tnybf.org.