

# Alumni Awards

Helping others: That's a common denominator among the four Marquette lawyers selected by the Law Alumni Association Board to receive awards this spring. Each has earned a reputation for success in legal or corporate settings, and each has a record of service to others.

## Alumnus of the Year



**John S. Shiely, L'77.**

Shiely went to law school because he thought that the background would assist in a corporate career. He was right. "My Marquette Law School experience was invaluable to me in a corporate environment that has been ever more impacted by legal and regulatory challenges,"

he says. Shiely served as chairman, CEO, and president of Briggs & Stratton, the Wauwatosa-based manufacturer. He also co-authored a book, *The EVA Challenge: Implementing Value-Added Change in an Organization*, has studied corporate governance at Harvard Law School, and guest-lectures on mergers and acquisitions at Marquette Law School. Shiely sits on several corporate boards. His numerous charitable activities include serving as chair of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. A lifelong rock music fan, he also sits on the board of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland.

## Lifetime Achievement Award



**Margadette Moffatt Demet, L'50.**

Demet prefers not to meet her clients' opposing parties in court. She'd rather meet them in a conference room for mediation. Demet's practice has concentrated on estate planning, probate and trust work, family, elder, and disability law, and she is a certified mediator. That includes

work as a volunteer mediator at children's court. "The problems faced in many of these cases cannot easily be solved in the courtroom," she says. "When we are able to bring parties together in mediation, they often craft creative solutions and actually commit to making them work." Demet has served as a leader in professional organizations and has been a volunteer in numerous Milwaukee-area efforts, including those of several Catholic organizations. "I am an Ignatian Associate and take seriously the vows of fidelity to the Gospel, apostolic availability, and simplicity of life," she says.

## Howard B. Eisenberg Service Award



**Kristin A. Occhetti, L'07.** During a summer externship as a law student at the Legal Aid Society, Occhetti says that she was surprised to discover the demand for such services as basic estate planning. The experience was a launching point for her passion for pro bono work. An associate at Quarles & Brady,

she has undertaken hundreds of hours as a volunteer lawyer. That includes continuing to work with the Legal Aid Society and pioneering the Milwaukee Bar Association Pro Bono Hospice Program. She also co-chairs the Children's Hospital Pro Bono Guardianship Program and the Milwaukee County Guardianship Assistance Program. "What I have learned from my time at Marquette is that no matter what area of law you practice, there are always opportunities to assist those less fortunate than you," she says.

## Charles W. Mentkowski Sports Law Alumnus of the Year



**Eryn M. Doherty, L'00.**

A love of sports and an eagerness to follow in her father's footsteps as a lawyer led Doherty to Marquette Law School and its sports law program. But add in her love of movies and television if you want to identify the roots of Doherty's career. Doherty

worked in labor law after graduation, thinking that it could lead to a position in the sports industry. She worked as an attorney for the National Labor Relations Board before joining Fox Entertainment Group as senior attorney for labor relations. She then moved to Sony Pictures, where she is assistant general counsel/executive director in labor relations. Doherty, who lives in Santa Monica, Calif., has volunteered for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles.