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## **NEW YORK BAR FOUNDATION PRESENTS GRANT TO WESTERN NEW YORK LAW CENTER, INC.**

*Photo Caption: Foundation Board Member and Co-chair of The Foundation's Marketing Committee Joseph McCarthy (Roach Brown McCarthy & Gruber P.C.) presents a grant check from The New York Bar Foundation to Joseph Kelemen, executive director of the Western New York Law Center.*

The New York Bar Foundation recently presented a grant of \$7,400 to the Western New York Law Center, Inc. in Buffalo, New York. The grant will be used to support their Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office (CLARO).

The New York Bar Foundation grant will enable the Western New York Law Center to educate the refugee community about ways to avoid consumer scams, and represent those who have been victims of fraud or deception in consumer transactions. It will help the refugee community increase their understanding of the law and facilitate the delivery of legal services to this underserved population.

“Resettlement gives refugees whose lives have been disrupted renewed hope and the opportunity to rebuild their lives,” states Executive Director of the Western New York Law Center, Joseph Kelemen. “Currently, the City of Buffalo and Erie County receive slightly over one third of the total refugee flow into New York State. Unfortunately, many new arrivals to this country are targeted by consumer scams. Without knowledge of the legal system, many of these victims believe they have no recourse for the wrongs they suffer.”

In early 2015, The New York Bar Foundation allocated over \$500,000 in grants to 94 organizations across New York to 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

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](http://www.tnybf.org), phone 518-487-5651 or email [nybarfoundation@tnybf.org](mailto:nybarfoundation@tnybf.org).