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## Probation Association of New Jersey

*Serving New Jersey Since 1904*

*An affiliate of the American Probation and Parole Association*

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## **ESSEX COUNTY'S ROBERT SZEWCZYK NAMED SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR**

*65th Annual Training Conference in Atlantic City Honors Local Officer*

*Atlantic City, N.J.* – Essex County resident Robert Szewczyk recently was honored by the Probation Association of New Jersey (PANJ) as the organization's "Supervisor of the Year." A probation officer with a quarter century of experience, Szewczyk was nominated by his peers throughout the county and state for his dedication in mentoring and leading fellow officers. Szewczyk oversees the supervision of hundreds of juvenile probationers living in Bergen County.

George Christie, president of PANJ said Szewczyk is recognized for embodying leadership qualities that exemplify the probation profession. Szewczyk, through mentoring and monitoring juvenile probationers demonstrates a rare quality in leadership.

"Bob is a patient, thoughtful leader who takes the time to understand the nature of problems affecting these young probationers and helps each member of his staff along with the families of the youth. His staff describes him as a leader who will never ask anyone to do a task he is not prepared to do himself," added Christie.

Mr. Szewczyk received his award at PANJ's 65<sup>th</sup> annual training institute, "Everyone's a Star...What's Your Role," held from November 18 to 20. The annual training institute is a grassroots event sponsored by the PANJ Education Foundation to ensure that officers are given adequate training. Workshop topics include: Immigration and Deportation, Predatory Drug's the Rapist's Deadly Weapon, Psychiatric Illness & Substance Abuse, Internet Crime, Communicable Health Issues, and Profiling the Stalker.

The association named Assemblyman Gordon Johnson (D-Bergen) Legislator of the Year and named New Jersey 101.5's 'Big' Joe Henry Citizen of the Year. First Assistant Attorney General, John Vazquez, gave the keynote address on the state's crime prevention efforts.

There are an estimated 2,800 probation officers and supervisors in New Jersey who oversee approximately 200,000 adult and juvenile probationers.

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