

M I L E S T O N E S

Driven lawyer earns honor

The N.J. Bar Association named Jeffrey Gold its Municipal Court attorney of the year.

By Rosalee Polk Rhodes
INQUIRER SUBURBAN STAFF

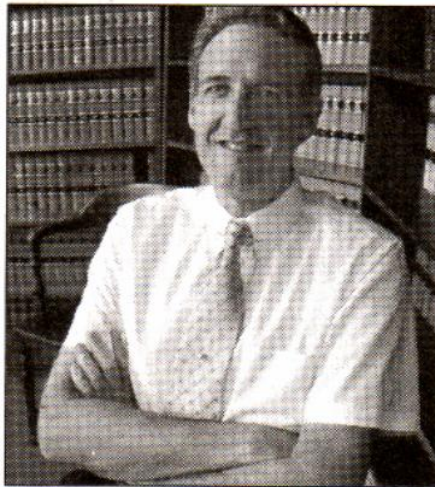
When Jeffrey Gold took on a single drunken-driving case in December 2001, he thought it would take about 60 days to resolve. But the case took twists and turns and wound up involving about 20 clients and consuming about two years of his time.

In that Pennsauken case, Gold became the first lawyer to challenge the Alcotest 7110 breath-testing device.

And because of his stamina and determination to prove that the test was unfair to some people, Gold was recently recognized by the New Jersey Bar Association as Municipal Court attorney of the year.

"He spent a substantial amount of valuable time handling a case in Camden County," said Kenneth Vercammen, chairman of the New Jersey State Bar Association Municipal Court section. "He was the lead attorney. It recognizes the hard work he did for a client and the public."

Gold, the second lawyer so



DAVID M WARREN / Suburban Staff

Jeffrey Gold challenged a breath-testing device in a drunken-driving case.

honored by the Municipal Court section, is expected to receive a crystal plaque during the section's September meeting.

In the Alcotest case, Gold challenged charges arising when people cannot provide enough wind to give a reading on the breath test to measure one's blood alcohol level.

Before his challenge, Gold, a former assistant in the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office, said several people who were charged with drunken driving and were unable to take the test were additionally charged with refusal, which can result in the suspen-

sion of one's driving privileges.

"Older people and women more than men had difficulty blowing into it," said Gold, a resident of Voorhees.

A defense attorney for 23 years, Gold said the ruling puts some restrictions on the test, gives clients more leverage, and can possibly reduce fines in some cases.

Gold, 48, is in private practice, with offices in Cherry Hill and Mount Holly. He is married to Abbe, and they are parents of two.

In addition to working with clients and representing them in court, Gold has been called upon to lend his expertise on several cable television talk shows. On Comcast CN8's *It's Your Call* and *Real Life*, Gold, a 1981 graduate of Rutgers University Law School in Camden, has offered commentary on the Michael Jackson molestation case and the Scott Peterson murder case.

"I've been on many of those shows. I enjoy talking about it as long as it's not my case," Gold said with a laugh.

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