



MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION

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MTA staff recognized for excellence in association leadership

DELTA CHARTER TOWNSHIP – Two leaders from the Michigan Townships Association (MTA), Executive Director **Larry Merrill** and Director of Communications and Education **Debra McGuire**, received Diamond Awards from the Michigan Society of Association Executives (MSAE) in recognition for their exemplary achievements in association leadership.

The MSAE Diamond Awards, presented at an awards ceremony in September, are designed to recognize excellence and innovation in associations. Merrill received the “Strategic Association Leader Award,” which signifies his ability and commitment to going beyond the expected standards of service and professionalism, and reflects his outstanding leadership and achievement in association management.

MTA President **Colleen Schwartz**, Milford Charter Township clerk, was on hand to deliver introductions for both Merrill and McGuire at the awards ceremony. “Larry’s willingness to go beyond the expected standards of his job holds him in the highest regard of the MTA Board of Directors, as well as the organization’s membership and its staff,” she said. “His impeccable character, high-quality work ethics, inspirational leadership and selfless contributions to both the industry and society exemplify the many important qualities embodied in this recognition.”

McGuire’s “Emerging New Leader Award” reflects extraordinary achievements and the promise of future accomplishments within the association management profession. Said Schwartz, “Debra provides extraordinary leadership that has enabled MTA to continue a tradition of excellence in its member communications and continuing education programs.”

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The Michigan Townships Association promotes the interests of Michigan townships by fostering strong, vibrant communities; advocating legislation to meet 21st century challenges; developing knowledgeable, township officials and enthusiastic supporters of township government; and encouraging ethical practices of elected officials who uphold the traditions and unique characteristics of township government and the values of the people of Michigan.