



## Jaffe Is New President Of State Trial Lawyers



Michael Jaffe

Michael Jaffe is the new president of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. Jaffe, 42, a personal injury plaintiffs' attorney from Pazer, Epstein & Jaffe in Manhattan is the 42nd president of the 4,600-member trade association. He will formally assume office on July 1.

As part of his larger goal to ensure the access of injured people to the civil justice system, Jaffe said in an interview, he would like to expand the association's membership, get members more involved and increase public awareness of the group's mission.

The association is active in Albany. This year, for example, the group strongly supported a bill to establish uniform procedures and time limits for the filing of notices of claim against government entities. It has been approved by the Legislature and submitted to Governor Andrew Cuomo. Jaffe said that the association retains lobbyists, but "When it comes to a bill we fully support," its members "will do face time" with lawmakers.

A 1994 graduate of the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Jaffe joined Pazer Epstein in 1995. Jaffe focuses on catastrophic injury matters, medical malpractice and civil rights violations at his six-attorney firm. Another partner of his firm, Perry Pazer, is a past president of the association while another partner, Mark Epstein, is a member of the group's board of directors.

—Christine Simmons