



**Independent Judicial Election  
Qualification Commission**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commissions  
for the Second Judicial Department Announce Qualified Candidates**

**(BROOKLYN HEIGHTS, N.Y.)** - In February of this year, Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye and then Chief Administrative Judge Jonathan Lippman announced the establishment of an Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commission ("IJEQC") in each of New York State's twelve (12) Judicial Districts. Each IJEQC is responsible for reviewing the qualifications of candidates within its respective judicial district who are seeking public election to judicial office in the following New York State courts: Supreme, County, Surrogate's, Family, New York City Civil, District and City. The criteria for evaluation under Part 150 of the Rules of the Chief Administrative Judge include professional ability; character, independence and integrity; reputation for fairness and lack of bias; and temperament, including courtesy and patience.

(more)

## **Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commissions -2-**

Four commissions were established to review the qualifications of candidates for judicial office within the Second Judicial Department, one each for the Second, Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh Judicial Districts. Commission members were chosen by the Chief Judge, the Presiding Justices of the Appellate Division and local bar associations. The commissions are comprised of lay people and attorneys and represent a wide cross-section of the communities they serve.

After careful consideration, the Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commissions for the Second Judicial Department, have deemed the following candidates “Qualified” for judicial office within the following Judicial Districts.

### **2nd Judicial District- Kings and Richmond Counties**

#### **Supreme Court Justice**

Rachel A. Adams  
Loren Baily-Schiffman  
Daniel Lee Feldman  
Alice Fisher Rubin  
Desmond A. Green  
L. Priscilla Hall  
Larry D. Martin  
Robert J. Miller  
ShawnDya L. Simpson  
Ellen M. Spodek  
Albert Tomei

#### **Judge of the Civil Court**

Frederick C. Arriaga  
John T. Hecht  
Dawn M. Jimenez  
Robin K. Sheares  
Debra Silber  
Carolyn E. Wade

(more)

**Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commissions -3-**

**Surrogate**

Robert J. Gigante  
Diana A. Johnson  
ShawnDya L. Simpson

**9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District- Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester Counties**

**Supreme Court Justice**

Robert M. Berliner  
Francesca E. Connolly  
Lawrence Henry Ecker  
Christine P. Krahulik  
William E. Sherwood  
Elaine Z. Slobod

**Judge of the County Court**

James W. Hubert Jr.  
Barbara Zambelli

**Judge of the Family Court**

Janet C. Jordan

**Judge of the City Court**

Michele Graffeo

**10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District- Nassau and Suffolk Counties**

**Supreme Court Justice**

Jeffrey S. Brown  
John M. Galasso  
Geoffrey J. O'Connell  
Robert W. Schmidt

(more)

**Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commissions -4-**

**Judge of the County Court**

Christopher G. Quinn  
Norman St. George

**Judge of the District Court**

William J. Burke  
Dennis M. Cohen  
Kevin J. Crowley  
William A. DeVore  
Rhonda E. Fischer  
Chris Ann Kelley  
Joseph H. Lorintz  
Gaetan B. Lozito  
Robert H. Spergel

**Judge of the Family Court**

Edmund M. Dane  
Julianne S. Eisman  
Richard S. Lawrence  
Theresa Whelan

**11<sup>th</sup> Judicial District- Queens County**

**Supreme Court Justice**

Denis J. Butler  
Anna Culley  
Timothy J. Dufficy  
Joseph Esposito  
Lenora Gerald  
Rudolph E. Greco Jr.  
Maureen A. Healy  
George M. Heymann  
Kenneth C. Holder  
Jeffrey D. Lebowitz

(more)

**Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commissions -5-**

Charles S. Lopresto  
Ira Harris Margulis  
Lee A. Mayersohn  
Terrence C. O'Connor  
Steven W. Paynter  
Leslie J. Purificacion  
Thomas D. Raffaele  
Bernice D. Siegal

**Judge of the Civil Court**

Elizabeth A. Anderson  
Nicholas H. Bais  
Cheree A. Buggs  
Lance Evans  
Rudolph E. Greco Jr.  
George M. Heymann  
Pam B. Jackman Brown  
Francis A. Kahn III  
Modjgan C. Lancman  
Richard G. Latin  
Terrence C. O'Connor  
Jodi Orlow  
Audrey LeVine Manicone  
Carmen R. Velasquez  
William A. Viscovich  
Howard L. Wieder

Further information regarding the IJEQC may be found on the web pages of the Appellate Division for the Second Judicial Department at: <http://courts.state.ny.us/courts/ad2/index.shtml>. Interested persons without internet access may contact Matthew G. Kiernan, Esq., Interim Director, at the address above or by telephone at (718) 722-6404.

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