

State of New York
Commission on Judicial Nomination

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Commission on Judicial Nomination Announces Process for Judge Jones Vacancy

The Commission on Judicial Nomination to Hold Open Discussions About the Nomination Process in Connection with the Seat Formerly Held by Associate Judge Ted Jones

On November 7, 2012, the Clerk of the Court of Appeals of the State of New York formerly notified the Commission on Judicial Nomination of the vacancy on the Court that had occurred by reason of the untimely passing of Associate Judge Theodore T. Jones. Judge Jones was a remarkable human being who exhibited singular warmth to all who knew him, and was a distinguished jurist who epitomized the scholarship and collegiality that are hallmarks of the Court of Appeals. The Commission is now taking up the task of filling the void left on the Court, following the procedures established by Judiciary Law Section 68(2).

Consistent with its constitutional mandate, the Commission on Judicial Nomination is entrusted with responsibility for evaluating, and then recommending to the Governor, candidates to fill vacancies on the Court of Appeals. The Commission vigorously seeks out, carefully evaluates, and then nominates to the Governor well qualified candidates from the extraordinary, diverse community of lawyers admitted to practice in New York State for at least 10 years.

As part of the Commission's process of identifying and nominating potential successors to Judge Jones, it will be conducting an informational meeting to discuss the requirements for the position and the Commission's procedures and rules for submitting recommendations of qualified candidates. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 6:00 PM at the New York City Bar Association, 42 West 44th Street, New York, New York 10036. The meeting will be open to the public, and all are encouraged to attend and express their views (orally or in writing) about community needs, the general qualifications for judicial office, and the nominating process.

Hon. Judith S. Kaye, former Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the Chair of the Commission on Judicial Nomination, will host the meeting. It is anticipated that Judge Kaye will be joined by prominent representatives of the bench, bar, and state government, who will provide insight into the judicial nomination process relating to the Court of Appeals.

The Commission will circulate further information regarding the scheduled speakers at a future date. It is not necessary to register in advance to attend.

Candidates for the Judge Jones vacancy may download an application from the Commission's website, www.nysegov.com/cjn. **The deadline to submit applications is December 18, 2012.** In addition to this vacancy, there will be a number of scheduled vacancies arising at the Court of Appeals over the next several years. Candidates will also have the option to request that their applications be considered by the Commission for such future, scheduled vacancies. Moreover, candidates who currently have pending applications with the Commission for the upcoming vacancy on the Court of Appeals that will occur as of January 1, 2013, upon the retirement of Senior Associate Judge Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick, will also be considered in connection with the vacancy created by Judge Jones's passing **and do not need to submit a new application.** As required by law, the Commission will make its recommendations to the Governor for the Judge Jones vacancy by no later than March 7, 2013.

The Commission is currently in the process of evaluating candidates for the upcoming Judge Ciparick vacancy, and the Commission will issue its report to the Governor with respect to the Judge Ciparick vacancy on December 1, 2012.

If any person or organization wishes to receive copies of future Commission press releases, please provide an email or mailing address to: Commission on Judicial Nomination, Attn: Stephen P. Younger, Commission Counsel, c/o Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036; or to CJN_PR@pbwt.com. The Commission will register the address and make every effort to distribute its future press releases in the designated manner. Persons interested in learning more about the Commission on Judicial Nomination are encouraged to visit the Commission's website: www.nysegov.com/cjn.