

State of New York
Commission on Judicial Nomination

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“The Road to the Court of Appeals: Demystifying the Process”

**Ahead of Upcoming Vacancy on the Court of Appeals, Commission on Judicial Nomination
to Hold Open Discussion About the Nomination Process in Rochester**

Under the Constitution of the State of New York, the Commission on Judicial Nomination is entrusted with responsibility for evaluating, and then recommending to the Governor, candidates to fill vacancies on the State’s highest court, the Court of Appeals of the State of New York. 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 Senior Associate Judge Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick, who must retire under the State’s Constitution, the Commission will be conducting several meetings around the State to discuss the requirements for the position and the Commission’s procedures and rules for submitting recommendations of qualified candidates. The meetings are 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.

The next informational meeting will be on May 16, 2012, Wednesday, 12:15 PM – 1:30 PM, at the Telesca Center for Justice, One West Main Street, Rochester, New York 14614. Hon. Judith S. Kaye, former Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the sitting Chair of the Commission on Judicial Nomination, will host the meeting, and will moderate a conversation about the Court of Appeals and its importance with Hon. Richard C. Wesley, Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and a former Associate Judge on the Court of Appeals of the State of New York. In addition to Judges Kaye and Wesley, scheduled speakers include:

Lieutenant Governor Robert J. Duffy;
Vincent E. Doyle III, President of the New York State Bar Association;
Bryan Hetherington, President of the Monroe County Bar Association and
Chief Counsel of the Empire Justice Center;
Stewart J. Schwab, Dean of Cornell Law School; and
Stephen P. Younger, Counsel to the Commission.

It is not necessary to register in advance to attend.

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 10023; or to: spyounger@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.