

State of New York
Commission on Judicial Nomination

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Commission on Judicial Nomination Appoints New Counsel

Under New York's Constitution, the Commission on Judicial Nomination is charged with evaluating, and then recommending to the Governor, candidates to fill vacancies on the State's highest court, the New York 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 who have been admitted to practice in New York State for at least 10 years.

The Commission today has accepted the voluntary resignations of its Counsel Stephen P. Younger, and Deputy Counsel John J. Halloran, Jr., who have served in their respective roles since 2008. Mr. Younger also previously served as Deputy and Assistant Counsel dating to 1993.

In their place, the Commission is pleased to announce the appointment of Henry M. ("Hank") Greenberg as Counsel to the Commission. Mr. Greenberg is currently a Shareholder in the Albany office of Greenberg Traurig, LLP. Previously, he has been Counsel to then-New York State Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo, General Counsel for the New York State Department of Health, Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York and Law Clerk to Judge Judith S. Kaye of the New York Court of Appeals.

Mr. Greenberg stated, “The Commission on Judicial Nomination serves a critical function in connection with our State’s judiciary, and I am very excited at the new opportunity this provides for me to serve the people and State of New York. The Court of Appeals sets the standard for the State’s Court system, and I will do everything within my abilities to help the Commission to fulfill its important mission.”

Judge Judith S. Kaye, Chair of the Commission, stated, “The Commission thanks Steve Younger and John Halloran profusely for their many years of able service. The Commission’s Counsel are instrumental to our ability to properly evaluate the candidates who appear before us, and Steve’s and John’s work in that regard, and every other, has been exemplary. They will be missed, but we could not be more excited to welcome Hank Greenberg as our new Counsel. Hank has an extraordinary public service record that has touched every corner of New York’s legal community. I can think of no one better suited to serve in this role.”

The next vacancy on the Court of Appeals is anticipated to occur in November 2014, in connection with the expiration of Associate Judge Victoria A. Graffeo’s 14-year term on the Court.

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: Henry M. Greenberg, Commission Counsel, c/o Greenberg Traurig, LLP, 54 State Street, 6th Floor, Albany, New York 12207. 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.