



PATRICIA L. MORGAN
CLERK OF THE COURT

NEW YORK STATE SUPREME COURT
APPELLATE DIVISION, FOURTH DEPARTMENT
M. DOLORES DENMAN COURTHOUSE
50 EAST AVENUE, SUITE 200
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14604
(585) 530-3100 Fax (585) 530-3247



FRANCES E. CAFARELL

Governor Cuomo Reappoints Justice Henry J. Scudder as Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo has designated Justice Henry J. Scudder as Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court for the Fourth Judicial Department. The Appellate Division is New York State's intermediate level appellate court. The Appellate Division, Fourth Department, located in Rochester, hears appeals from trial courts in a twenty-two county region in Western and Central New York, and parts of the southern tier and Finger Lakes Region.

Justice Scudder has served as Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department since November 2006. In addition to performing the duties of an Appellate Division Justice in deciding appeals, the Presiding Justice sits on the Administrative Board of the Courts, the policy and rule making body of the Unified Court System. The Administrative Board consists of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the four Presiding Justices of the Appellate Division.

Additionally, the Presiding Justice is charged with responsibility for the administration of the Court and oversees the operation of its auxiliary agencies, including, the Attorney Grievance Office, the Mental Hygiene Legal Services Office, the Office of Attorneys for Children, and the Appellate Division Law Library.

"I wish to thank Governor Cuomo for his confidence in me," Justice Scudder said. "The last four years as Presiding Justice have been among the most rewarding of my career. I appreciate the opportunity to continue to work with my colleagues and staff at the Fourth Department in this capacity. I am also grateful for the opportunity to continue to work with Chief Judge Lippman and my colleagues on the Administrative Board on reforms to improve the legal system."

Justice Scudder earned his law degree from the University of Tennessee in 1969 and was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1970. He began his career practicing law in Bath, New York, where he worked in private practice and served as an Assistant District Attorney and then as First Assistant District Attorney. Justice Scudder was elected Surrogate in Steuben County in 1981 and reelected in 1991. He served as Surrogate from 1982 through 1996. During that time he also presided in Supreme, County and Family Court. He was elected as a Justice of the Supreme Court for the Seventh Judicial District in 1996. In 1999, Justice Scudder was designated as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department by Governor George E. Pataki. On November 17, 2006, Governor Pataki appointed Justice Scudder as Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department.