

FOURTH DEPARTMENT SCHEDULES BAR ADMISSION CEREMONY

Hon. Henry J. Scudder, Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department, announced that 279 candidates will be sworn in as attorneys and counselors at law at the Court's bar admission ceremony scheduled for Thursday, March 3rd at 2:00 p.m., at the Hyatt Regency in Rochester.

The four Appellate Divisions in New York, which hear and decide appeals from the trial courts, have exclusive jurisdiction over the admission of candidates to the bar. The Appellate Division, Fourth Department, which sits in Rochester, encompasses 22 counties, covering most of central and western New York.

The Fourth Department admits new attorneys at special sessions of Court held twice annually during the Court's February/March and June terms. Candidates have been certified to the Court for admission following careful investigation of their character and fitness to practice law by committees appointed by the Court. The candidates are required to recite the constitutional oath of office at the ceremony and subscribe to the oath by signing the official roll of attorneys.

Presiding Justice Scudder said that "The men and women who will be sworn in should be proud of their many accomplishments. They have completed the rigorous demands of law school, passed the bar exam, and have been found to be of good moral character. This will be a memorable day, not only for the new lawyers, but also for their family members and friends who supported them along the way."

The keynote speaker for the bar admission ceremony will be Vincent E. Doyle III, President-Elect of the 76,000-member New York State Bar Association. Doyle, who will take office in June 2011, is a partner at Connors & Vilaro, LLP in Buffalo. Doyle is a trial and appellate attorney. His practice includes civil and white collar criminal litigation and attorney disciplinary matters.

Dated: February 10, 2011

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