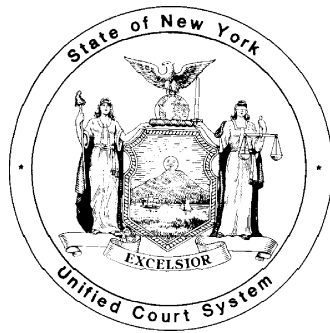

STATE OF NEW YORK



Twenty-First Annual Report
of
The Chief Administrator of the Courts
for Calendar Year 1998

STATE OF NEW YORK

**Report
of
The Chief Administrative Judge of the Courts**

**For the Calendar Year
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998**

Court of Appeals

Judith S. Kaye, Chief Judge

Vito J. Titone
Joseph W. Bellacosa
George Bundy Smith

Howard A. Levine
Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick
Richard C. Wesley

Chief Administrative Judge of the Courts

Jonathan Lippman

Administrative Board of the Courts

Judith S. Kaye, Chair

Anthony V. Cardona
Guy J. Mangano

M. Dolores Denman
Alfred D. Lerner

UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
1998

JONATHAN LIPPMAN
Chief Administrative Judge

JOAN B. CAREY
*Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
New York City Courts*

ANN T. PFAU
*Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
for Management Support*

JOSEPH J. TRAFICANTI, JR.
*Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
Courts Outside New York City*

Administrative Judges

JACQUELINE W. SILBERMANN
Statewide Administrative Judge
for Matrimonial Matters

MICHAEL GAGE
Administrative Judge
New York City Family Court

STEVEN W. FISHER
Administrative Judge
Eleventh Judicial District
Supreme Court

PATRICK D. MONSERRATE
District Administrative Judge
Sixth Judicial District

FERN FISHER-BRANDVEEN
Administrative Judge
New York City Civil Court

LUIS A. GONZALEZ
Administrative Judge
Twelfth Judicial District
Supreme Court

L. PAUL KEHOE
District Administrative Judge
Seventh Judicial District

JUDY HARRIS KLUGER
Administrative Judge
New York City Criminal Court

JOSEPH J. TRAFICANTI, JR.
Acting Presiding Judge
Court of Claims

VINCENT E. DOYLE
District Administrative Judge
Eighth Judicial District

STEPHEN G. CRANE
Administrative Judge
First Judicial District
Supreme Court, Civil Branch

THOMAS W. KEEGAN
District Administrative Judge
Third Judicial District

ANGELO J. INGRASSIA
District Administrative Judge
Ninth Judicial District

JUANITA BING NEWTON
Administrative Judge
First Judicial District
Supreme Court, Criminal Branch

JAN H. PLUMADORE
District Administrative Judge
Fourth Judicial District

EDWARD G. McCABE
Administrative Judge
Nassau County

MICHAEL L. PESCE
Administrative Judge
Second Judicial District
Supreme Court

WILLIAM R. ROY
District Administrative Judge
Fifth Judicial District

MARY WERNER
Administrative Judge
Suffolk County

MICHAEL COLODNER
Counsel

Preface

Welcome to the 21st annual report of the Chief Administrator of the Courts. This report, which is submitted to the Governor and the Legislature in accordance with Section 212 of the Judiciary Law, reflects the activities of the courts and the state of the court system during the preceding year.

You will find here an outline of the structure of the courts, a summary of our legislative agenda, significant statistical data and some of the major highlights marked by the courts during the year 1998. The extensive statistical data relating to Family Court that is published each year in accordance with sections 213 and 385 of the Family Court Act is issued separately as Volume II of this annual report.

During 1998, we continued to develop our Criminal, Family and Housing Justice initiatives, which bring innovative methods of case management to the courts, make them more accessible to the public and improve the delivery of court services. We also continued to increase our technological expertise in all aspects of court operations.

I am pleased to report that the Unified Court System's Center for Court Innovation, a public-private partnership that develops and implements new programs to improve court operations, was one of ten recipients of the prestigious Innovations in American Government Award presented by the Ford Foundation and Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, in recognition of the new court prototypes we have piloted and the structure that has been established for ongoing innovation in the courts.

As always, I am proud of the accomplishments of the Judges and nonjudicial employees that constitute the court system and want to thank them for their dedication and commitment to the Judicial Branch and to serving the people of the State of New York.

I also want to take this opportunity to gratefully acknowledge the assistance and cooperation extended to the Office of Court Administration and to me during 1998 by the Governor and his staff, members of the Legislature, bar associations and individual lawyers and laypersons.



The Derek Photographers Group

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