



SIXTH ANNUAL LAW SCHOOL

ACCESS TO JUSTICE CONFERENCE

THE ROLE OF NEW YORK'S LAW SCHOOLS IN
HELPING MEET THE ESSENTIAL CIVIL LEGAL
NEEDS OF LOW-INCOME NEW YORKERS

CONVENED BY THE NEW YORK STATE
PERMANENT COMMISSION ON ACCESS TO JUSTICE
AT ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
QUEENS, NEW YORK

MAY 18, 2017



9:00-9:30 am **Registration and Check-In** **Solarium, Ground Floor**
Light Refreshments

9:30-10:00 am **Welcome and Introductions** **Belson Moot Courtroom, 2nd Floor**

Helaine M. Barnett

Chair, New York State Permanent Commission on Access to Justice

Michael A. Simons

Dean and John V. Brennan Professor of Law and Ethics, St. John's University School of Law

Opening Remarks

Hon. Janet DiFiore

Chief Judge of the State of New York

10:00 am-11:15 am **Morning Plenary Session** **Belson Moot Courtroom, 2nd Floor**

Panel Discussion

Access to Justice in the Courtroom and Beyond: A Conversation About How Law Schools Enhance Access to Justice and Access to the Democratic Process for Low-Income New Yorkers

Moderator

Matthew Diller

Dean and Paul Fuller Professor of Law, Fordham University School of Law; Chair, Law School Involvement Working Group, New York State Permanent Commission on Access to Justice

Panelists

Martha Bergmark

Executive Director, Voices for Civil Justice

Sarah Ludwig

Founder and Co-Director, New Economy Project

Janai Nelson

Associate Director-Counsel, NAACP-LDF

Zephyr Teachout

Professor of Law, Fordham University School of Law

11:20 am-11:45 am **Mid-Morning Briefings**

Funding Legal Services Corporation: Reflections and Projections

Helaine M. Barnett

Chair, New York State Permanent Commission on Access to Justice
Former President, Legal Services Corporation (2004-2009)

Alexander D. Forger

Member, New York State Permanent Commission on Access to Justice
Former President, Legal Services Corporation (1994-1997)

New York State Permanent Commission's Strategic Planning Process to Develop an Action Plan to Provide Effective Assistance to All New Yorkers in Need

Helaine M. Barnett

Chair, New York State Permanent Commission on Access to Justice

Legal Hand, Neighborhood Storefronts: Impact in the Communities

Ignacio Jaureguilorda

Director, Legal Hand

11:55 am -1:15 pm	CONFERENCE WORK GROUPS: Part 1	Concurrent Sessions
Work Group One	Law School Clinics and Programs: Enhancing Access to Justice and Access to Democratic Participation through Advocacy and Community Partnerships	ROOM 1-15
Co- Facilitators	<p>Ann L. Goldweber Professor of Clinical Education Director of Consumer Justice for the Elderly: Litigation Clinic Director of Clinical Education Co-Director, Public Interest Center St. John's University School of Law</p> <p>Gina M. Calabrese Professor of Clinical Education Associate Director, Consumer Justice for the Elderly: Litigation Clinic Co-Director, Public Interest Center St. John's University School of Law</p>	
Panelists	<p>Kathryn Baldwin J.D. Candidate, 2018 St. John's University School of Law</p> <p>Edward W. De Barbieri Assistant Professor of Law; Director, Community Development Clinic Albany Law School</p> <p>Jennie G. Kim Staff Attorney, Legal Hand, Jamaica</p> <p>Robert McCreanor Executive Director, Hudson Valley Justice Center</p> <p>Jose W. Torres Volunteer Coordinator, Legal Hand, Jamaica</p> <p>The Work Group will explore models of collaboration to expand access to justice between law school clinics and local communities, legal service providers, community organizations and courts. The morning session will feature a panel of law school clinicians, a law student and community-based legal providers. Panelists will discuss the successes and challenges of their clinic-community collaborations in direct representation, law reform advocacy and information empowerment. In the afternoon session, participants will work in facilitated small groups to discuss ways of developing and strengthening collaborations and initiatives.</p>	

Work Group Two **Right to Counsel in New York City Housing Court and Beyond:
Implications for New York’s Law Schools**

ROOM 1-13

Co-Facilitators

Andrew Scherer

Policy Director, Impact Center for Public Interest Law
New York Law School

Raymond H. Brescia

Associate Professor of Law
Albany Law School

Panelists

Stephanie Costa

Poverty Justice Solutions Fellow
Lenox Hill Neighborhood House

Marika Dias

Director, Anti-Displacement Project
Legal Services NYC

Randy Dillard

Tenant Leader
Community Action for Safe Apartments (CASA)

Harvey Epstein

Associate Director
Urban Justice Center
President, New York Legal Services Coalition

Adriene Holder

Attorney-in-Charge of Civil Practice
The Legal Aid Society

Lillian M. Moy

Executive Director
Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York

The Work Group will explore the right to counsel in housing court and beyond, and its implications for New York’s law schools, their faculty, staff, administrators, students and graduates. New York City, poised to become the first jurisdiction in the nation to “guarantee universal access to counsel” for all tenants who live below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines, recently increased its funding for eviction-prevention legal assistance ten-fold, enabling the City’s civil legal services providers to hire more than 200 new housing attorneys. This remarkable development has profound implications for legal services programs, for the courts, and for landlord-tenant practice and law. Significantly, it also has profound implications for law schools, which now face the challenge of preparing students to enter a rapidly growing area of public interest law. The resources that will now be available to housing court, together with the dedicated funding for civil legal services in New York’s state and city budgets, demands increased collaborations between law schools and legal services providers, and the development of a more effective pipeline for civil legal services practitioners in general.

Work Group Three **Role of New York’s Law Schools:
Protecting Immigrants in Our Communities** **ROOM 2-12**

Facilitator **Peter L. Markowitz**
Professor of Law
Director, Kathryn O. Greenberg Immigration Justice Clinic
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

Panelists **Lenni B. Benson**
Professor of Law
Director, Safe Passage Project Clinic
New York Law School

Theo Liebmann
Clinical Professor of Law
Director, Youth Advocacy Clinic
Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University

Beth Lyon
Clinical Professor of Law
Director, Farmworker Legal Assistance Clinic
Cornell Law School

Sarah Rogerson
Associate Professor of Law
Director, Immigration Law Clinic
Director, Law Clinic & Justice Center
Albany Law School

The Work Group will explore the critical role law schools play in advancing access to justice for immigrants and protections for immigrant communities generally. The Work Group will focus on the ways law schools have partnered with immigrant communities, and catalyzed and facilitated pro bono and public legal services programs throughout the State. Particularly, the Work Group will examine how law school clinics advocate on behalf of immigrants in state courts on family law, labor law and criminal law matters, as well as in federal forums. Most importantly, the Work Group will consider the ways law school curricula, clinics and research can continue to evolve to expand protections for immigrants; how law schools can collaboratively develop a robust pipeline for students to engage in this type of public interest legal work; and, identify ways to partner with New York’s courts to further these efforts.

1:25 -2:00 pm **Lunch** **Solarium, Ground Floor**

2:10-3:45 pm **Part II: Work Group Sessions** **Concurrent Sessions continue
Return to Rooms**

4:00-4:30 pm **Closing Plenary Session** **Belson Moot Courtroom, 2nd Floor**

Moderator **Dean Matthew Diller**

Reports from Facilitators of Work Group Sessions

Concluding Remarks **Helaine M. Barnett**

PARTICIPANTS

QUISQUELLA ADDISON

Program Director, LawHelpNY
Pro Bono Net

HAMRA AHMAD

Legal Director
Her Justice

MICHAELA AZEMI

Regional Pro Bono Coordinator
Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.

HARRY BALLAN

Dean & Professor of Law
Touro Law Center

KATHRYN BALDWIN

J.D. Candidate 2018
St. John's University School of Law

HELAINÉ M. BARNETT

Chair, New York State Permanent Commission
on Access to Justice
Former President, Legal Services Corporation
(2004-2009)

JOHN BART

Staff Attorney
MFY Legal Services

MARGIE BECHARA

Managing Attorney
Her Justice

LENNI B. BENSON

Professor of Law
Director, Safe Passage Project Clinic
New York Law School

MARTHA BERGMARK

Executive Director
Voices for Civil Justice

MYRA BERMAN

Associate Dean
Touro Law Center

ADELE BERNHARD

Adjunct Professor of Law
New York Law School;
Director, Post Conviction Clinic
Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University

BREE BERNWANGER

Director, New York Unaccompanied Immigrant
Children & Immigrant Families Project
Feerick Center for Social Justice
Fordham University School of Law

CAROLINE BERSAK

Assistant Director of Legal Services
Legal Wellness Institute, The Family Center

JASON BIAFORE

Managing Attorney
Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation

ROSALIND BLACK

Director, Housing Unit
Manhattan Legal Services

CRAIG M. BOISE

Dean & Professor of Law
Syracuse University College of Law

MICHELLE BORN

LiveHelp Coordinator
LawHelpNY, Pro Bono Net

RACHEL BRAUNSTEIN

Managing Policy Attorney
Her Justice

RAYMOND H. BRESCIA

Associate Professor of Law
Albany Law School

WILLIAM BROOKS

Clinical Professor of Law
Touro Law Center

CAROL BUCKLER

Professor of Law
New York Law School

EILLEEN BUCKLEY

Supervising Attorney
Long Island Advocacy Center, Inc.

BRIDGIT BURKE

Legal Director
The Legal Project

GINA M. CALABRESE

Professor of Clinical Education
Associate Director, Consumer Justice for the
Elderly: Litigation Clinic
Co-Director, Public Interest Center
St. John's University School of Law

ROSE MARIE CANTANNO

Associate Director
New York Legal Assistance Group

FERIDE CASTILLO

Director of Advocacy
Empowerment Collaborative of Long Island, Inc.

JACQUELINE CHENEY

Associate Director, Public Service Law Center
Brooklyn Law School

MONTEL CHERRY

Supervising Attorney
MFY Legal Services

STEPHEN CHO

Staff Attorney
Western New York Law Center

ROGERLYN CIPRIANO

Founder/CEO
Angels for Warriors

MICHAEL COLODNER

Member
New York State Board of Law Examiners

KIM DIANA CONNOLLY

Professor of Law
Vice Dean for Advocacy and Experiential
Education
University at Buffalo School of Law

JENNI COOK

Coordinating Attorney, Consumer Protection
New York Lawyers Assistance Group

ELIZABETH COOPER

Associate Professor of Law
Faculty Director, Feerick Center for Social Justice
Fordham University School of Law

STEPHANIE COSTA

Poverty Justice Solutions Fellow
Lenox Hill Neighborhood House

ANTHONY W. CROWELL

Dean and President
Professor of Law
New York Law School

EDWARD W. DE BARBIERI

Assistant Professor of Law
Director, Community Development Clinic
Albany Law School

JESSIE DE STEFANO

Staff Attorney
Queens Legal Services

MARIKA DIAS

Director, Anti-Displacement Project
Legal Services NYC

SAMANTHA R. DIDOMENICO

Senior Analyst, Dispute Consulting
Stout Risius Ross, LLC

HON. JANET DIFIORE

Chief Judge, State of New York

RANDY DILLARD

Tenant Leader
Community Action for Safe Apartments (CASA)

MATTHEW DILLER

Dean and Paul Fuller Professor of Law
Fordham University School of Law;
Chair, Law School Involvement Working Group,
New York State Permanent Commission on
Access to Justice

DANA DOHN

Equal Justice Works Fellow
The Children's Law Center

MARIA DOSSO

Director, Communications
and Volunteer Services
Nassau Suffolk Law Services

HEIDI DOROW

Director of Special Projects
Borealis Philanthropy

PEGGY EARISMAN

Director
Manhattan Legal Services

HARVEY EPSTEIN

Associate Director
Urban Justice Center
President, New York Legal Services Coalition

HON. FERN FISHER

Director, NYS Courts Access to Justice Program
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
Program for New York City Courts
Member, NYS Permanent
Commission on Access to Justice

ALEXANDER D. FORGER

Member, New York State Permanent
Commission on Access to Justice
Former President, Legal Services Corporation
(1994-1997)

MARY FOX

Director, Legal Services
Housing Conservation Coordinators

WAYNE FRANCIS

Chief Operating Officer
Legal Services NYC

KRIS FRANKLIN

Professor of Law
New York Law School

SHEILA GADDIS

Executive Director
Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe
County
Member, New York State Permanent
Commission on Access to Justice

SUSAN GAGNON

Managing Attorney
Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc.

DORA GALACATOS

Executive Director
Feerick Center for Social Justice
Fordham University School of Law

RYAN GALLAGHER

Hotline Program Manager
Legal Information for Families Today (LIFT)

PAULA GALOWITZ

Clinical Professor of Law Emerita
New York University School of Law

ANGIE GARCIA

Litigation Legal Assistant
Sullivan & Cromwell, LLP

JOSEPH GENOVA

Director of Public Service
Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy, LLP

JOCELYN GETGEN

Director, Human Rights and
Atrocity Prevention Clinic
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

WENDY GILDIN

Education Attorney
Long Island Advocacy Center, Inc.

ANN L. GOLDWEBER

Professor of Clinical Education
Director of Consumer Justice for the Elderly:
Litigation Clinic
Director of Clinical Education
Co-Director, Public Interest Center
St. John's University School of Law

HON. MARGUERITE GRAYS

New York Supreme Court Justice,
Queens County

MELISSA GREENBERGER

Staff Attorney
Pro Bono Partnership

LAURA ADLER GREENE

Staff Attorney
Long Island Advocacy Center, Inc.

JOHN GREINER

President
Just-Tech, LLC

LISA GRUMET

Director
Diane Abbey Law Institute
for Children and Families
New York Law School

JENNIFER GUNDLACH

Clinical Professor of Law
Maurice A. Deane School of Law
at Hofstra University

RACHEL HALPERIN

Chief Program Officer
Legal Services of the Hudson Valley

KIM HAWKINS

Professor of Law
New York Law School

BRYAN HETHERINGTON

Chief Counsel
Empire Justice Center

ADRIENE HOLDER

Attorney-in-Charge of Civil Practice
The Legal Aid Society
Member, New York State Permanent
Commission on Access to Justice

LANI HOUSTON

Attorney
Suffolk County Legal Aid Society

AMY HOZER

Supervising Attorney
New York Legal Assistance Group

DIANE INBODY

Staff Attorney
Long Island Advocacy Center, Inc.

SHAFIQ ISLAM

Director
Goddard Riverside Law Project

ELISE JAFFE

Director, Pre-Law Program
Hunter College

SEYMOUR JAMES

Attorney-in-Chief
The Legal Aid Society

IGNACIO JAUREGUILORDA

Director, Legal Hand
Center for Court Innovation

RANDAL JEFFREY

General Counsel
New York Legal Assistance Group

CAPRICE JENERSON

Director, Pro Bono and Volunteer Unit
New York Legal Assistance Group

SERGIO JIMENEZ

Director, Civil Justice Practice
Brooklyn Defender Services

LAUREN KANFER

Staff Counsel
New York State Permanent Commission on
Access to Justice

CINDY KANUSHER

Executive Director
Pace Women's Justice Center

LYNN KELLY

Executive Director
City Bar Justice Center

JENNIE G. KIM

Staff Attorney
Legal Hand, Jamaica

ROCHELLE KLEMPNER

Chief Counsel
New York State Courts Access to Justice
Program

ANDREW KUNTZ

J.D. Candidate, 2019
Columbia Law School

GLENN LAU-KEE

Kee & Lau-Kee PLLC

PARTICIPANTS

JENNY LAURIE

Executive Director
Housing Court Answers, Inc.

DONNA LEE

Senior Associate Dean of Clinical Programs
CUNY School of Law

MELANIE LESLIE

Dean, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

RICH LEIMSIDER

Executive Director
Safe Passage Project

MARCIA LEVY

Executive Director
Pro Bono Partnership
Special Advisor, New York State Permanent
Commission on Access to Justice

THEO LIEBMANN

Clinical Professor of Law
Director, Youth Advocacy Clinic
Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra
University

BILL LIENHARD

Executive Director
Volunteers of Legal Service

SARAH LUDWIG

Founder & Co-Director
New Economy Project

BETH LYON

Clinical Professor of Law
Director, Farmworker Legal Assistance Clinic
Cornell Law School

CHIANSAN MA

Staff Attorney, Housing Unit
Bronx Legal Services

THOMAS MALIGNO

Executive Director
Public Advocacy Center
Touro Law Center

PETER L. MARKOWITZ

Professor of Law
Director, Kathryn O. Greenberg Immigration
Justice Clinic
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

KEITH MCCAFFERTY

Director of Operations
Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.

ROBERT MCCREANOR

Executive Director
Hudson Valley Justice Center

MARY HELEN MCNEAL

Professor of Law
Director, Elder Law Clinic
Syracuse University College of Law

HON. EDWINA MENDELSON

Acting Justice, Supreme Court, New York County
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
for Justice Initiatives, *effective June 2017*
Member, New York State Permanent
Commission on Access to Justice

BARBARA MICHALSKA

Supervising Attorney
CAMBA Legal Services

LAURIE MILDER

Special Counsel
New York State Courts
Access to Justice Program

KRISTA MILLER

Pro Bono Scholar
Empire Justice Center
J.D. Candidate, 2017
Touro Law Center

MARY C. MONE

Special Advisor
New York State Permanent Commission on
Access to Justice

LILLIAN M. MOY

Executive Director
Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York
Member, New York State Permanent
Commission on Access to Justice

BARBARA MULÉ

Staff Counsel
New York State Permanent Commission
on Access to Justice

SHARON MULLON

Fair Housing Education Coordinator
Long Island Housing Partnership, Inc.

GAYLE MURPHY

Pro Bono Manager
ECBA Volunteer Lawyers Project, Inc.

JANAI NELSON

Associate Director-Counsel
NAACP-LDF

ALIZABETH NEWMAN

Clinical Professor of Law
Director, CLRN
CUNY School of Law

SATEESH NORI

Attorney-in-Charge
Queens Neighborhood Office
The Legal Aid Society

LIA OCASIO

Staff Attorney
Queens Legal Services

DOREEN ODOM

Acting Deputy Director
Queens Legal Services

MEGAN O'LEARY

Attorney for the Child
The Legal Aid Society of Rochester

SWATI PARIKH

Director of Public Service Advising and Pro Bono
New York Law School

INDIANA PORTA

Legislative Counsel – Immigration
New York City Council

KARIN ANDERSON PONZER

Director of Legal Services
Neighbors Link

KIM WOLF PRICE

Director of Externships
Syracuse University College of Law

LILLY PRINCE

Content Manager, LawHelpNY.org
Pro Bono Net

HON. A. GAIL PRUDENTI

Dean, Maurice A. Deane School of Law
at Hofstra University

RUNA RAJAGOPAL

Managing Director, Civil Action Practice
The Bronx Defenders

RAUN J. RASMUSSEN

Executive Director
Legal Services NYC
Member, New York State Permanent
Commission on Access to Justice

LISA RIVERA

Director of Strategic Initiatives
New York Legal Assistance Group

SARAH ROGERSON

Director, Immigration Law Clinic
Director, Law Clinic & Justice Center
Albany Law School

JOSEPH ROSENBERG

Professor of Law
CUNY School of Law

RODRIGO SANCHEZ-CAMUS

Director of Legal Services
Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation

MELINDA SARAN

Vice Dean for Social Justice Initiatives
University at Buffalo School of Law

LOU SARTORI

Director, Pro Bono Practice
The Legal Aid Society

MAUREEN SCHAD

Pro Bono Counsel
Chadbourne & Parke LLP

ANDREW SCHERER

Policy Director
Impact Center for Public Interest Law
New York Law School

THOMAS J. SCHOENHERR

Assistant Dean
Public Interest Resource Center
Fordham University School of Law

JEFFREY SEIGEL

Executive Director
Nassau Suffolk Law Services

HON. CAROL SHERMAN, RET.

Chief Magistrate, New York City Family Court

CAROLYN SILVER

Chief Program Officer
Lenox Hill Neighborhood House

MARJORIE SILVER

Director of Externships & Professor of Law
Touro Law Center

MICHAEL A. SIMONS

Dean & John V. Brennan Professor of Law & Ethics
St. John's University School of Law

MCGREGOR SMYTH

Executive Director
New York Lawyers for the Public Interest

NATALIE SOBCHAK

Director of Pro Bono Programs
Pace Women's Justice Center

GEMMA SOLIMENE

Clinical Associate Professor of Law
Fordham University School of Law

MONROE SOLOMON

Court Programs Manager
Legal Information for Families Today (LIFT)

GRACE SON

Legal Assistant
Sullivan & Cromwell, LLP

DANIELLE SORKEN

Director, Public Service Law Center
Brooklyn Law School

BETTY STATON

President
Brooklyn Legal Services

RAPHAEL STERN

Pro Bono Scholar
MFY Legal Services
J.D. Candidate, 2017
Cornell Law School

KATHLEEN SULLIVAN

Managing Attorney
Citizens Concerned for Children, Inc.

ZEPHYR TEACHOUT

Professor of Law
Fordham University School of Law

CHANEL THOMAS

Legal Assistant
Sullivan & Cromwell, LLP

LESLIE THROPE

Executive Director
Housing Conservation Coordinators

KAREN TOMMER

Deputy Chief Clerk of the Court
New York State Supreme Court, Appellate
Division, Second Judicial Department

JOSE W. TORRES

Volunteer Coordinator
Legal Hand, Jamaica

DAVID UDELL

Executive Director
National Center for Access to Justice
Fordham University School of Law

JENNIFER VALLONE

Senior Program Director
University Settlement

ROSE CUISON VILLAZOR

Professor of Law
University of California Davis School of Law

KRISTEN WAGNER

Director, Pro Bono Services
New York State Bar Association

IAN WEINSTEIN

Professor of Law
Fordham University School of Law

FRANCES WEINSTOCK

Program Director
CAMBA Legal Services

EVE WEISSMAN

Staff Attorney
New Economy Project

MARTI WEITHMAN

Supervising Attorney
MFY Legal Services

HELEN WROBEL

Supervising Attorney and Coordinator,
New York State Access to Justice Program
St. John's University School of Law

ELLEN YAROSHEFSKY

Howard Lichtenstein Distinguished
Professor of Legal Ethics;
Executive Director, Monroe H. Freedman
Institute for the Study of Legal Ethics
Maurice A. Deane School of Law
at Hofstra Law School

DAVID YASSKY

Dean, Elisabeth Haub School
of Law at Pace University

BARBARA ZAHLER-GRINGER

Counsel for Administration
New York State Unified Court System

ERICA ZIMNY

Managing Attorney
Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

LAW SCHOOL CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Helaine M. Barnett, Chair, NYS Permanent Commission on Access to Justice; Former President, Legal Services Corporation (2004-2009)

Todd A. Berger, Associate Professor of Law; Director, Criminal Defense Clinic, Syracuse University College of Law; Co-Chair, Statewide Law School Access to Justice Council

Raymond H. Brescia, Associate Professor of Law, Albany Law School

Gina M. Calabrese, Professor of Clinical Education; Associate Director, Consumer Justice for the Elderly: Litigation Clinic; Co-Director, Public Interest Center, St. John's University School of Law

Kim Diana Connolly, Professor of Law; Vice Dean for Advocacy and Experiential Education, University at Buffalo School of Law

Matthew Diller, Dean and Paul Fuller Professor of Law, Fordham University School of Law; Chair, Law School Involvement Working Group, NYS Permanent Commission on Access to Justice

Shelley J. Dropkin, Managing Director, Deputy Corporate Secretary and General Counsel, Corporate Governance, Citigroup Inc.; Member, NYS Permanent Commission on Access to Justice

Gretchen Flint, Professor of Law; Executive Director, John Jay Legal Services, Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University

Ann L. Goldweber, Professor of Clinical Education; Director of Consumer Justice for the Elderly: Litigation Clinic; Director of Clinical Education; Co-Director, Public Interest Center, St. John's University School of Law; Member, Statewide Law School Access to Justice Council

Lauren Kanfer, Staff Counsel, NYS Permanent Commission on Access to Justice; Assistant Deputy Counsel, NYS Office of Court Administration

Lynn Kelly, Executive Director, City Bar Justice Center

Marcia Levy, Executive Director, Pro Bono Partnership

Beth Lyon, Clinical Professor of Law; Director, Farmworker Legal Assistance Clinic, Cornell Law School

Thomas Maligno, Executive Director, Public Advocacy Center; Director of Public Interest; Touro Law Center

Peter L. Markowitz, Professor of Law; Director, Kathryn O. Greenberg Immigration Justice Clinic, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

Connie Mayer, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Raymond and Ella Smith Distinguished Professor of Law, Albany Law School; Co-Chair, Statewide Law School Access to Justice Council

Lillian M. Moy, Executive Director, Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York; Member, NYS Permanent Commission on Access to Justice

C. Kenneth Perri, Executive Director, Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.

Andrew Scherer, Policy Director, Impact Center for Public Interest Law, New York Law School

Danielle Sorken, Director, Office of Public Service, Brooklyn Law School

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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