



STATE OF NEW YORK  
**UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM**  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT SUPPORT  
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TO: Holders of the Financial Planning and Control Manual

SUBJECT: Surrogate Court Performance Bond and Public Employee Master Bond

#### Surrogate Courts

Sections 2605 and 2606 of the Surrogate Court Procedure Act mandate the filing of a faithful performance bond on behalf of all Chief Clerks and Deputy Chief Clerks of Surrogate's Courts. Prior to the State's assumption of local court financing in 1977, courts secured individual insurance bonds, many of which included coverage for Surrogate Court Judges as well, pursuant to an opinion of the Attorney General (1975, Op. Atty. Gen. (Inf.) 87).

Since 1977, the Office of Court Administration, through the Office of General Services (OGS) - Division of Insurance, has secured a \$100,000 blanket fidelity bond covering all Surrogates, Chief Clerks and Deputy Chief Clerks of Surrogate Courts. This approach provides significant protection at a substantial premium savings and eliminates the need for individual court coverage.

#### Public Employee Master Fidelity Bond

In addition to the above insurance, all Unified Court System employees are covered under a Master Employee Fidelity Bond which is also administered by OGS. This bond provides maximum coverage of \$1,000,000 per incidence of employee dishonesty, subject to a deductible of \$100,000 per occurrence.

The above cited UCS insurance bonds are processed and paid centrally through the Office of Court Administration. The procurement of insurances by, or on behalf of individual courts or agencies is generally unnecessary and not authorized unless prior approval is received through this office.

Please contact this office if there are any questions relative to this bulletin. Thank you.

NYS UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM  
FOR EFCM APPROVAL  
*William L. Clapham*  
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