



Dear Colleagues.

The Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission, which is celebrating its Thirtieth Anniversary this year as a permanent commission in the New York State court system promoting racial and ethnic fairness, will be honored this year by the Judicial Section of the New York State Bar Association with the Advancement of Judicial Diversity Award. The Commission cordially invites you to attend the virtual Awards Ceremony which will take place on Friday, January 29, 2021, from 12:30PM-2:30PM. Additionally, the 2021 Distinguished Jurist Award will be presented to Hon. Rolando T. Acosta, Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, First Department. The keynote speaker will be Secretary Jeh C. Johnson, author of the Report from the Special Adviser on Equal Justice in the New York State Courts. Chief Judge Janet DiFiore will also swear in the 2021-2022 Judicial Section Officers.

The event is free.

[Click here to register](#)



**2021 Judicial Section Program  
NYSBA Virtual Annual Meeting Conference  
Friday, January 29, 2021  
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM**

**2020-2021 JUDICIAL SECTION OFFICERS**

Hon. Barbara R. Kapnick | Presiding Member  
Hon. Denise A. Hartman | Assistant Presiding Member  
Hon. Joanne D. Quiñones | Secretary  
Hon. Gregory R. Gilbert | Treasurer

**WELCOME BY JUDICIAL SECTION PRESIDING MEMBER**

Hon. Barbara R. Kapnick

**SWEARING IN OF 2021-2022 JUDICIAL SECTION OFFICERS**

Chief Judge Janet DiFiore

**2021-2022 SLATE OF OFFICERS**

Hon. Denise A. Hartman | Presiding Member  
Hon. Joanne D. Quiñones | Assistant Presiding Member  
Hon. Gregory Gilbert | Secretary  
Hon. Tanya R. Kennedy | Treasurer

**WELCOMING REMARKS**

Scott M. Karson, NYSBA President

**PRESENTATION OF 2021 DISTINGUISHED JURIST AWARD TO**

**Hon. Rolando T. Acosta**

*Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, First Department*

**PRESENTATION OF 2021 ADVANCEMENT OF JUDICIAL DIVERSITY AWARD TO  
The Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission**

On the Occasion of its 30th Anniversary  
To Be Accepted by the Commission Co-Chairs

**Hon. Shirley Troutman, Associate Justice**

*Appellate Division, Fourth Department*

and

**Hon. Troy K. Webber, Associate Justice**

*Appellate Division, First Department*

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Secretary Jeh C. Johnson**

Partner, *Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP*

Author of the Report from the Special Adviser

on Equal Justice in the New York State Courts

Former U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security in the Obama Administration