



## PRESS RELEASE

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**New York State  
Unified Court System**

**Hon. Joseph A. Zayas  
Chief Administrative Judge**

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**Date: June 5, 2023**

### **Hon. James P. Murphy Named Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Courts Outside NYC**

**NEW YORK**—Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas today announced the appointment of Hon. James P. Murphy as Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Courts Outside New York City. The appointment was made with the approval of Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson and in consultation with the Presiding Justices of the Second, Third and Fourth Departments of New York State’s Appellate Division. He succeeds Hon. Norman St. George, who was appointed First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge in May.

In his new capacity, Judge Murphy will manage the day-to-day operations of the trial-level courts outside New York City, which include over 640 State-paid judges and 6,000-plus non-judicial employees. He will work with local Administrative Judges in overseeing the implementation of court system programs and protocols, and the allocation of personnel and other court resources, in meeting the justice needs of those served by the courts outside New York City. He will also be responsible for oversight of New York’s local Town and Village Courts.

“Judge Murphy is an energetic leader with a keen intellect and a passion for the law and public service. An effective administrator, he has led the Fifth Judicial District with distinction over the past four years, deftly overseeing the District in navigating the myriad operational and other challenges posed by the pandemic and guiding the District forward in its transition to today’s ‘new normal.’ I am pleased that he will be taking on this critical administrative post and look forward to working with him in his new role,” said Chief Administrative Judge Zayas.

“I am deeply honored that Chief Administrative Judge Zayas has entrusted me with this awesome responsibility. I have spent almost 40 years inside all of the Courts in New York, in one role or another, and I am excited to use that experience to make our Courts work more efficiently and equitably,” said Judge Murphy.

Prior to his appointment, Judge Murphy served as Administrative Judge for the Fifth Judicial District, which comprises Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, Onondaga and Oswego counties in Central New York. He began his judicial career upon his 2005 election to the State Supreme Court, Fifth Judicial District, to which he was re-elected in 2019. He served in the Court’s matrimonial, general civil and commercial parts. From 2007 to 2019, he was the Supervising Judge for the Town and Village Courts in the Fifth Judicial District, overseeing over 200 Town and Village Justices.

Before his ascension to the bench, Judge Murphy was a member of the Onondaga County Legislature, where he served as Chair of the Ways and Means Committees. Previously, he served as an Assistant District Attorney in Onondaga County and was in private practice for 20 years, with an emphasis on civil litigation and municipal law.

Judge Murphy is a Syracuse native and graduate of the Syracuse University College of Law.

His appointment is effective immediately.

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