



# **PRESS RELEASE**

**New York State  
Unified Court System**

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

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## **Executive Director Named to the Office of Court Administration**

**NEW YORK**—Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas today announced the appointment of Justin Barry as Executive Director of the Office of Court Administration (OCA) which, functioning as the administrative arm of the New York State court system, provides critical support services to the courts in areas that include court research, court security, facilities planning, financial management, human resources, jury support and technology, among others.

In his capacity as Executive Director and under the direction of Chief Administrative Judge Zayas and First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George, Mr. Barry will oversee the management of the Office of Court Administration, including setting priorities, planning projects and initiatives, providing analysis of complex issues and making policy recommendations.

“Justin Barry is a talented administrator whose knowledge of court operations is unparalleled. He has served the court system with distinction for more than two decades, taking on a range of court management roles and responsibilities over the years. Justin is widely respected throughout the court and legal community for his professionalism, vision and work ethic. He is an ideal choice to assume the multiple demands of this important assignment. I look forward to working with him in carrying out OCA’s mandate to provide critical services in support of the court system’s essential mission,” said Chief Administrative Judge Zayas.

“I can think of no one more qualified than Justin Barry to undertake this challenging — and central — administrative post. He is a strategic thinker and natural leader with substantial experience devising and implementing statewide policies and procedures

relating to all aspects of court operations. Justin has earned a reputation for his keen intellect, sound judgment, hard work and lifelong dedication to public service. He is undoubtedly an asset to our court leadership team,” said First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George.

Prior to his appointment as Executive Director, Mr. Barry had been serving as OCA’s Chief of Administration, advising the Chief Judge and OCA’s leadership team on complex administrative and legal issues, and developing and implementing statewide policies and procedures pertaining to court operations, among other duties. Previously, he was the Chief Clerk of the Criminal Court of New York City – the country’s busiest criminal court – where he managed criminal court operations throughout the City’s five boroughs and advised the Administrative Judge on policy and programs, in addition to other responsibilities. He first joined the New York State court system in March 2002 as a Principal Court Attorney and Citywide Drug Court Coordinator. He subsequently served as Counsel to the Administrative Judge, New York City Criminal Court; Acting Chief Court Attorney, New York City Criminal Court; and Counsel to the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts. Before joining the court system, he was a Senior Staff Attorney at the Legal Aid Society in Brooklyn, New York.

Mr. Barry is a graduate of Haverford College and Villanova University School of Law. He is the recipient of numerous awards for his contributions to the New York State courts and justice system, including the National Center for State Courts’ 2019 Warren E. Burger Award for Excellence in Court Administration; the New York City Bar Association’s 2014 Bernard Botein Medal; the New York State court system’s 2008 Merit Performance Award; and 2007 New York Association of Drug Treatment Court Professionals’ Presidential Award.

As part of the restructuring of the Office of Court Administration, the Executive Director will manage all OCA divisions. Nancy Barry (no relation to Mr. Barry), who worked for the past three-and-a-half years as Chief of Operations, will take on a new operational role in the Ninth Judicial District in White Plains.

“Nancy Barry has served as a top manager in the Office of Court Administration with the utmost professionalism and dedication. She helped lead the court system through an extraordinarily challenging pandemic period,” said Chief Administrative Judge Zayas.

“Nancy’s operational experience, and her expertise in the critical area of human resources, was crucial to the court system’s ability to navigate the past years. We are deeply grateful to Ms. Barry for her leadership and wish her luck in her new operational role,” said First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge St. George.

Justin Barry’s appointment is effective immediately.

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