



PRESS RELEASE

**New York State
Unified Court System**

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

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Court System Names New Inspector General

NEW YORK—Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas today announced the appointment of Kay-Ann Porter Campbell as the Director of the court system’s Office of the Inspector General (OIG). As Director, Ms. Porter Campbell will oversee the OIG, which, operating within the Office of Court Administration (OCA), is responsible for investigating allegations of misconduct, fraud, criminal activity or conflicts of interest by court employees or persons or corporations doing business with the court system. Additionally, the OIG comprises the Office of the Managing Inspector General for Bias Matters, which works to reinforce the court system’s commitment to eliminate bias within the courthouse; and the Office of the Managing Inspector General for Fiduciary Appointments, which is responsible for maintaining and enforcing the rules governing court appointments in guardianship, foreclosure, receivership and other matters.

“Kay-Ann Porter Campbell is a person of the highest character and standards, an extraordinarily thoughtful and focused leader who, as the OIG’s Managing Inspector General for Bias Matters over the past two decades, has worked diligently to root out and eliminate bias within the court system, including leading efforts to expand the Office’s outreach in its mission to promote a safe, inclusive environment for all who work in, do business in and visit our courts,” said Chief Administrative Judge Zayas. “I look forward to working with Kay-Ann in advancing these anti-bias efforts and carrying out the OIG’s essential mandate to ensure the accountability, efficiency and integrity of the New York State courts.”

Ms. Porter Campbell has done remarkable work as the court system’s Managing Inspector General for Bias Matters, and I could not be more pleased by her appointment as our new Inspector General. In addition to her keen judgment and enormous dedication and integrity, Kay-Ann brings a wealth of expertise and knowledge—including extensive investigative experience—to her new role,” said First Deputy Chief

Administrative Judge Norman St. George. “I have every confidence that she will be a fair and highly effective steward of the OIG, whose mission is so integral to our efforts to advance the delivery of justice systemwide and foster public trust and confidence in the New York State courts.”

“It has been a true privilege to work closely with Ms. Porter Campbell as we continue to implement the New York State court system’s Equal Justice endeavors. Her stellar leadership of our anti-bias office has proven invaluable to our training and other efforts toward a court system that is free from all forms of bias, and a judiciary and nonjudicial workforce that is reflective of New York State’s rich diversity and inclusiveness. We are fortunate that the Office of the Inspector General will continue to benefit from her extensive expertise, keen judgment, sense of fairness and many other fine attributes,” said Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives Edwina G. Mendelson-Richardson.

Ms. Porter Campbell has served as OCA’s Managing Inspector General for Bias Matters since 2002, conducting and overseeing investigations into allegations of bias within the courthouse, advising court managers on anti-bias policies and best practices, developing and delivering anti-bias training for judges and nonjudicial personnel, and representing the OIG at events to highlight the Office’s work, including the complaint process, and shed light on issues relating to the OIG’s mission. She first joined the court system in 1999 as an Assistant Special Inspector General for Bias Complaints and, before that, worked as an attorney for the Metropolitan Transit Authority-New York City Transit, representing the Authority in federal and state court litigation and in cases brought before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, State Division of Human Rights and New York City Commission on Human Rights, among her other responsibilities. Previously, she was employed as an Assistant Attorney General in the New York State Department of Law’s Litigation Bureau. She began her legal career as an associate in the Law Office of Dennis J. Pottinger in Queens, New York, where she handled a range of civil and family law matters. Ms. Porter Campbell is a graduate of Albany Law School of Union University.

“I want to express my deepest appreciation to Carol Hamm for her leadership of the OIG these past months. Carol graciously assumed the role of Acting Inspector General following the recent retirement of the courts’ long-serving Inspector General, Sherrill Spatz. I am most thankful for Carol’s support and commitment during this time and for her many contributions to the OIG throughout the years. I look forward to my continued collaboration with Carol, who will remain in her position as Deputy Inspector General, in furthering the OIG’s mission,” said Judge Zayas. “Additionally, we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Sherrill Spatz for her decades of service to the court system, both in her initial capacity as Inspector General for Fiduciary Appointments and, since 2002, as Inspector General. We wish Sherrill the very best in all her future endeavors.”

The appointment will take effect September 14, 2023.

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