

## **NEWS RELEASE**

New York State Unified Court System

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Date: March 12, 2024

## Chief Judge Wilson Appoints Co-Chair of the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

**NEW YORK**–Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson today announced the appointment of Hon. Llinét Rosado as Co-Chair of the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts. Justice Rosado will join trailblazer and Committee on Women in the Courts Chair Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin as leaders of this distinguished group of judges and attorneys, which works to secure equal justice, treatment, and opportunity in the courts, addressing a variety of concerns of women litigants, attorneys, and court employees. In recent years, the Committee has acted on behalf of constituencies that range from domestic violence victims to immigrant women and from sexually harassed employees to self-represented matrimonial litigants. Additionally, the Committee was instrumental in the creation of a statewide network of human trafficking intervention courts.

"As we celebrate Women's History Month, I am especially pleased to announce the appointment of Justice Llinét Rosado as Co-Chair of the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, whose work is crucial to our efforts to foster a bias-free justice system and earn the public's trust and confidence in our courts," said Chief Judge Wilson. "Justice Rosado is a dedicated public servant who, as a member of the Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts and the Twelfth Judicial District's Gender Fairness Committee—among her many other affiliations—has worked tirelessly to raise awareness of the various issues surrounding gender equity in the courts, legal profession, and society. I have every confidence that Justice Rosado's leadership, vision, energy, and dedication will serve to further advance the Committee's vital mission. I am eager, in collaboration with our judicial leadership team, to work alongside her, Justice Ellerin, and the Committee members as we move ahead on the path to gender equity."

"The Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts has been a catalyst for a broad spectrum of initiatives to foster gender fairness in the courts and legal profession, from promoting the recruitment of qualified women for senior management and other court positions that had traditionally been filled by males to spurring the implementation of specialized courts to help ensure equal justice in divorce and other matters. Clearly, significant progress has been made to help level the playing field for women in the courts. Yet, more work remains in identifying and addressing the range of court-related concerns facing women of varied needs and backgrounds, including the dual bias encountered by women of color," said Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas. "As a lifelong fighter for women's rights and equal justice, Justice Llinét Rosado is a natural fit, working in tandem with the eminent Betty Weinberg Ellerin, to lead the Committee in these efforts, further broadening court career opportunities for women, as well as ensuring their fair and equal treatment in the courts—be they litigants, witnesses, attorneys, court employees, or other court users."

"I am grateful to Chief Judge Wilson for this tremendous opportunity. It is a great honor to be named Co-Chair of the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, alongside the legendary Justice Betty Weinberg Ellerin, whose sevendecade career has been defined not only by many historic firsts that shattered glass ceilings—including first woman law clerk in the New York State court system, first woman to be appointed Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department, first woman Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department, and first woman to hold the position of Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for the New York City Courts—but by her life's work championing the rights of women and children in our courts and justice system," said Justice Rosado. "She is a friend, my mentor, a mentor to countless others, and a force of nature who leads by example. As Co-Chair, I look forward to working with her and all the dedicated committee members to continue to do the work that will secure equal justice, equal treatment, and equal opportunities for women in our court system and New York State."

Hon. Llinét Rosado has been serving as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department since her appointment to the Court in July 2023. Previously, she served as a State Supreme Court Justice in the Bronx, where she handled a range of civil and criminal matters. She began her judicial career upon her 2012 election to the New York City Civil Court in Bronx County, initially serving on the County's Family Court bench. In 2017, she was designated an acting Supreme Court Justice, serving in Bronx County Supreme Court's Civil Term, hearing matrimonial cases, personal injury actions, and mental health proceedings. Additionally, she served on the County's Criminal Court bench, conducting arraignments.

After graduating from Albany Law School, Justice Rosado worked as a staff attorney in the Legal Aid Society's Criminal Defense Division and was later employed by the Children's Law Center, where she provided representation to children in custody, visitation, and other matters. Before taking the bench, she served the Unified Court System as a court attorney to several judges.

Justice Rosado sits on the Twelfth Judicial District's Gender Fairness Committee in the Bronx, is a First Department Vice President of the New York Women Judges Association, and a member of the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission and the New York State Bench Book Committee, along with her other professional activities.

A strong proponent of civic education, she is a mock trial competition coach to elementary and high school students and a member of the Advisory Board of the Thurgood Marshall Junior Mock Trial Competition. Her deep commitment to civic education programs and role as a mentor to local youth earned her the distinction of "honorary alumnus" of St. Angela Merici School in the Bronx. Additionally, in May 2020, the All Hallows High School established the annual "Hon. Llinét Rosado Award for Mock Trial" in tribute to her service to the Bronx school's mock trial team. Justice Rosado has been acknowledged for her contributions to the courts and community by numerous other institutions and organizations, including the Bronx Family Court Bar Association, Bronx Women's Bar Association, Dominican Bar Association, Puerto Rican Bar Association, and Albany Law School where, later this month, she will be presented with the prestigious Kate Stoneman Award in recognition of her demonstrated commitment to seeking change and expanding opportunities for women.

Justice Rosado's appointment is effective immediately.

To learn more about the history and work of the Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, go to <u>https://ww2.nycourts.gov/ip/womeninthecourts/index.shtml</u>

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