

State of New York

Court of Appeals

Gary Spencer
Public Information Officer
20 Eagle Street
Albany, New York 12207-1095
(518) 455-7711

**For immediate release:
December 16, 2002**

Milonas Appointed to Board of Law Examiners

The Court of Appeals today announced the appointment of E. Leo Milonas to the State Board of Law Examiners, which develops and administers the bar examination for the admission of attorneys in New York. Mr. Milonas, who served on the bench for 27 years, is a partner in the Manhattan law firm of Pillsbury Winthrop LLP and is president of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye said, "His tremendous breadth of experience in the legal profession and in the courts, together with his outstanding personal and professional skills, will make him an invaluable addition to the Board." He served as Chief Administrative Judge of the New York court system under Chief Judge Kaye from 1993 through 1995.

Mr. Milonas was in private practice for 13 years before his appointment in 1973 to the New York City Criminal Court, where he served as Supervising Judge in the Bronx and then in Manhattan. He became an Acting Supreme Court Justice in 1976 and was elected to Supreme Court in 1978. He was an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department from 1982 through 1998, except for the time he served as Chief Administrative Judge. He returned to private practice in 1999.

In 1992-93, Mr. Milonas chaired the Committee to Examine Lawyer Conduct in Matrimonial Actions (known as the Milonas Committee), which led to important reforms. He currently serves on the State Commission on Judicial Nomination, which nominates candidates to the Governor for appointment to the Court of Appeals, and on the Governor's Judicial Screening Committee for the First Judicial Department, which screens candidates for appointment to the Appellate Division and to Supreme Court vacancies. He also serves on the Chief Judge's Commission on Fiduciary Appointments and the Commercial Courts Task Force.

The five-member Board of Law Examiners administers the bar examination twice a year in February and July. This year, 12,860 candidates took the exam.