

The Matrimonial Commission

The **Matrimonial Commission**, appointed by Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye in June 2004 to review all aspects of matrimonial litigation and make recommendations for improving how the courts handle such litigation in both Family Court and Supreme Court, will continue to hold public hearings through Spring 2005. The purpose of the public hearings is to receive the views of interested individuals and organizations with regard to ways to reduce cost, delay and trauma to the parties, with particular focus on the following issues:

- **Custody and Visitation**
- **Appointment, Qualifications and Use of Law Guardians, Forensic Experts, Guardians Ad Litem and others**
- **Alternative Dispute Resolution and Mediation**
- **Collaborative Divorce**

Individuals interested in speaking at one of the public hearings must register at least ten days prior to the hearing. Registration forms are available from the Commission directly or on the Commission's website. Forms may be submitted by fax, e-mail or regular mail at the contact information below.

The Commission will make every effort to accommodate all those wishing to speak. Prior to the hearing, registered individuals will be notified of a time frame within which their testimony will be heard. **All comments will be limited to ten minutes.** Written submissions may be made in addition to or in lieu of spoken testimony and may be sent via regular mail or e-mail to the Commission at the contact information below.

The Commission can not take testimony from any individual with a pending matter in the courts of this state. Individuals with pending matters may send general comments and observations on the divorce and attendant legal process in writing to the Commission.

The Commission can not accept any comments, written or spoken, addressing details of individual litigation or complaints about individual judges, attorneys or experts.

THE REMAINING HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

WHITE PLAINS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2005 • 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
NYS Judicial Institute, Pace School of Law, 78 North Broadway, White Plains, NY

BUFFALO

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2005 • 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
Ceremonial Courtroom, Erie County Courthouse, 92 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY

NEW YORK CITY

MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005 • 1:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.
New York County Lawyers Association
14 Vesey Street (between Broadway & Church Street), New York, NY

CONTACT THE COMMISSION AT:

Matrimonial Commission, NYS Office of Court Administration
140 Grand Street, Suite 701, White Plains, NY 10601
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www.nycourts.gov/ip/matrimonial-commission