

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

March 15, 2001

## GOVERNOR PATAKI ANNOUNCES APPELLATE DIVISION DESIGNATIONS

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### Justice Bracken Selected as Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department

Governor George E. Pataki today announced that he has designated Justice Lawrence J. Bracken as the Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department.

\* Governor Pataki also announced that he is designating Justices Thomas A. Adams, Barry A. Cozier, Stephen Crane and Sandra L. Townes as Additional Justices of the Appellate Division, Second Department, and Justice George D. Marlow as an Additional Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department.

"Surprising no one, the Second Department Judicial Screening Committee has determined that Justice Lawrence J. Bracken, an outstanding jurist and extraordinary public servant, is highly qualified for the position of Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department," Governor Pataki said. "I am delighted to appoint Justice Bracken to this high and richly-deserved office.

"I am also pleased to announce the designations of five superb jurists to the Appellate Division," Governor Pataki said. "With their legal acumen, broad range of professional experience and dedication, I am confident that these outstanding public servants will serve with great distinction on the Appellate Division."

The designation of Justice Bracken as Presiding Justice of Appellate Division, Second Department is effective immediately. The other designations will become effective after the justices have an opportunity to conclude ongoing assignments in their current judicial offices.

Justice Lawrence J. Bracken has served as the Acting Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department, since January 1, 2001, and has served as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division since 1981. He has served as a Justice of the Supreme Court in the Tenth Judicial District since 1974. Prior to assuming the bench, he was engaged in the private practice of law for ten years, served as the Executive Director of the Suffolk County Crime Control Council for four years, and served as a Suffolk County Assistant District Attorney for five years. He served in the United States Army from 1952 until 1954, and received an honorable discharge. He received his bachelor's degree from St. John's University in 1952, his law degree from Harvard Law School in 1957, and his master's of law degree from the University of Virginia Law School in 1984.

Justice Thomas A. Adams has served as a Supreme Court Justice in the Tenth Judicial District since 1993. He served as a Nassau County District Court Judge from 1988 until 1992. Prior to assuming the bench, he served as a Law Secretary to County Court Judge Marvin I. Goodman from 1981 until 1987, and served as a Nassau County Assistant District Attorney from 1973 until 1980. Justice Adams received his bachelor's degree from Elizabethtown College in 1970, and his law degree from the New England School of Law in 1973.

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Justice Barry A. Cozier has served as a Supreme Court Justice in the Second Judicial District since 1993, and since 1998 has served in the Commercial Division in the First Judicial District. He served as the Deputy Administrative Judge for Management Support of the New York State Courts from 1996 until 1997, and as the Deputy Administrative Judge for the New York City Courts from 1994 until 1995. He served as the Supervising Judge of the Queens County Family Court and as an Acting Supreme Court Justice in 1992. Prior to that, he served as a Judge of the New York County Family Court from 1986 until 1992. He was engaged in the private practice of law for eight years. Justice Cozier received his bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1971, and his law degree from New York University School of Law in 1975.

Justice Stephen Crane has served as a Supreme Court Justice in the First Judicial District since 1989, and has served as the Administrative Judge of the Civil Branch in New York County since 1996. He served as an Acting Supreme Court Justice from 1984 until 1989, and as a Criminal Court Judge of the City of New York from 1981 until 1984. Prior to assuming the bench, he was engaged in the private practice of law for four years, as counsel to the Office of Court Administration for one year, and served as a Chief Law Assistant and Senior Law Assistant of the Appellate Division, First Department for thirteen years. Justice Crane received his bachelor's degree from Cornell University, School of Industrial and Labor Relations in 1960, and his law degree from Cornell Law School in 1963.

Justice Sandra L. Townes has served as a Supreme Court Justice in the Fifth Judicial District since 2000. She served as a Syracuse City Court Judge from 1988 until 1999. Prior to assuming the bench, she served as an Assistant District Attorney for ten years. Justice Townes received her bachelor's degree from Johnson C. Smith University in 1966, and her law degree from Syracuse University College of Law in 1976.

Justice George D. Marlow has served as a Supreme Court Justice in the Ninth Judicial District since 2000. He served as a Dutchess County Court Judge from 1993 until 1999, and as an Acting Supreme Court Justice in Kings County in 1997. He served as a Dutchess County Family Court Judge from 1984 until 1992, and as an Acting Supreme Court Justice in Queens County from 1987 until 1988. He served as a Poughkeepsie Town Justice from 1980 until 1983.

Prior to assuming the bench, Justice Marlow was engaged in the private practice of law for six years. He served as a Confidential Law Clerk to the Honorable Albert M. Rosenblatt from 1976 until 1979. He served as a Dutchess County Assistant District Attorney from 1971 until 1975, and as a Queens County Assistant District Attorney from 1967 until 1971. Justice Marlow received his bachelor's degree from St. Lawrence University in 1963, his law degree from St. John's University Law School in 1966, and his master's of law degree from the University of Nevada in 1997.

\* Justice Bracken was found to be highly qualified for the position of Presiding Justice by the Second Department Judicial Screening Committee; Justices Adams, Cozier, Crane, Marlow and Townes were all found to be highly qualified for the position of Additional Justices of the Appellate Division.

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