

tar azette.

Courts suggest as much as 62 percent pay hike for N.Y. judges

Written by

Joseph Spector and Rebecca Baker

5:40 PM, Jul. 12, 2011|

ALBANY -- The state courts system is recommending that judges get a pay raise of up to 62 percent after having their pay frozen since 1999.

The recommendations come in a report this week from chief administrative judge Ann Pfau to the state Commission on Judicial Compensation, which is evaluating the pay for the state's roughly 1,300 judges.

State Supreme Court judges receive a salary of \$136,700, but Pfau recommended judges' salaries increase to as high as \$220,836 to put them on par with other states, based on cost of living standards. She recommended a salary between \$192,000 and \$220,836.

Pfau called the recommendations "prudent and responsible." She said New York ranks last in the nation for judicial pay based on cost of living and 20th for actual salary.

"After such a lengthy pay freeze, the cost of the reform of past practices must not

prevent this commission from fulfilling its urgent mandate to provide appropriate compensation to New York's judges," she wrote in the report.

The seven-member panel is expected to release its findings in late August. The commission's recommendations will automatically become law unless state lawmakers try to halt them.

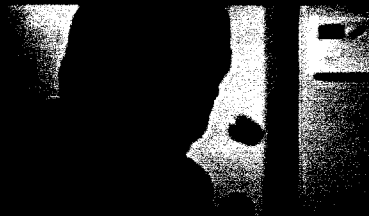
Some Republican lawmakers questioned Pfau's recommendations, saying that while judges may deserve a pay raise it should be within reason.

"The range that Judge Pfau is suggesting seems very generous, especially with middle-class families that are struggling," said Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman John Bonacic, R-Mount Hope, Orange County.

Bonacic said he is hopeful that lawmakers, Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the judiciary can work with the commission to find common ground.

Advertisement

**Protect Your Home
with ADT!**



*Click Here
to Learn More!*

Print Powered By 

Dynamics

tar azette.

New York State Supreme Court Officers Association is supporting the move to pay judges more, but didn't offer a pay recommendation.

"They deserve a raise -- they deserve a substantial raise," union President John Strandberg said. "If they gave them a 35 percent raise? I know the court employees' raises have not gone up 35 percent since 1999."

[Get Listed Here](#)

Ads by Pulse 360

New Policy in New York

Drivers with no DUIs may be eligible for \$9 per week car insurance.

www.lifestylejournal.com

New York Refinance at 2.3%

\$160,000 New York Mortgage \$659/mo. 2.7% apr. Get a Free Quote!

Lendgo.com/mortgage

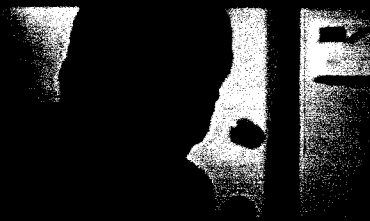
New York: Refinance Rates at 2.37%

\$170,000 Mortgage for Only \$661/mo. Get Free Quotes Now! 2.9%APR

www.QuotesHound.com

Advertisement

**Protect Your Home
with ADT!**



*Click Here
to Learn More!*

Print Powered By

Dynamics