

* EXEC CHAMBER

Fax: 518-474-8099

Apr 28 '97 14:28

P.02/02

STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
GEORGE E. PATAKI, GOVERNOR

Press Office
518-474-8418
212-681-4640

<http://www.state.ny.us>

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671		# of pages > /
To <i>Ethna Sassower</i>	From <i>Walter Ayrault</i>	
Co.	Co.	
Dept.	Phone # <i>518-432-8207</i>	
Fax # <i>914-684-6554</i>	Fax # <i>5</i>	

* [FOR RELEASE:
IMMEDIATE, Monday
April 14, 1997]

① GOVERNOR PATAKI APPOINTS SHECHTMAN TO STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

② Governor Pataki today announced he has appointed former Criminal Justice Director Paul Shechtman to the New York State Ethics Commission for a term that runs through the end of May 1998. He replaces Joseph Bress, who resigned from the Commission.

③ "I'm very pleased to appoint Paul Shechtman to the Ethics Commission," Governor Pataki said. "He was a great Director of Criminal Justice and he'll be an asset to the Ethics Commission."

"His willingness to serve on the Commission is a testament to his commitment to public service," the Governor said. "We will be fortunate to have someone of his caliber working to enforce the highest standards of ethical conduct in state government."

④ Mr. Shechtman served as Director of Criminal Justice and Commissioner of the Division of Criminal Justice Services from March 1995 until February of this year. He was Chief of the Criminal Division for the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York from 1993-95. He has also served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at Columbia Law School since 1988.

Mr. Shechtman has served as counsel to Robert Morgenthau, Manhattan District Attorney (1987-1993); Chief Appellate Attorney and Chief of the General Crimes Unit for the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York (1981-1985) and law clerk to the Honorable Warren Burger, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court (1979-1980).

Shechtman, a New York city resident, received a bachelor's degree in economics from Swarthmore College, was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, where he received his master's degree in economics, and received his law degree from Harvard Law School, where he graduated magna cum laude.

###

11:02 No.004 P.01

May 07 97

TEL: 518-432-8255

NYS ETHICS COM

Ex-A-1

New York Law

THE BENCH AND BAR SINCE 1888

217—NO. 83

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1997

CORPORATE UPDATE

■ PAGE 5 ■

- **NEWS:** The forces that brought the nation's tobacco companies to engage in settlement talks with plaintiffs reflect an evolution in the balance of power and legal strategies over 40 years of litigation.
- **COLUMN:** Audrey Strauss of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson discusses cases in which courts found the SEC failed to give notice before imposing criminal or civil penalties.
- **NEW DEALS:** The lawyers involved in ITT Industries' \$815 million purchase of Gould Pumps and other transactions.
- **CASE DECISIONS:** Recent antitrust and civil procedure rulings by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District.

TODAY'S NEWS

Update

Cravath, Swaine & Moore has been slapped with a New York City tax lien for failing to pay \$3,389 in unincorporated business taxes for 1995. The lien entitles the city sheriff to sell the firm's property to satisfy the debt. Cravath presiding partner Samuel C. Butler said the city informed the firm in August that it owed \$4,400 in unpaid taxes. Cravath sent the city the \$1,100 it believed it owed and thought the matter was resolved, he said. Cravath will try to persuade the city to lift the lien, Mr. Butler said.

State Supreme Court Justice Ira Gammerman's initial failure to make repairs to his Greenwich Village townhouse posed a "substantial health and safety" problem for tenants, entitling them to a reduction in rent, Brooklyn Housing Court Judge Marc Finkelstein has ruled. He ordered the former tenants to pay \$9,990 — \$14,000 less than another judge said was owed before the case was reversed and remanded. Judge Gammerman has since renovated the townhouse.

Paul Shechtman, the former director of the State Division of Criminal Justice Services, has been appointed by Governor Pataki to the State Ethics Commission. He is a partner at Stillman & Friedman.

An expanded and redesigned *New York Law Journal* Web site debuts today, giving readers a quick, complete on-line summary of news, decisions and trends that will be updated daily. The site features links to the full texts of decisions, reports and other documents in the news, such as the decision allowing the FDA to regulate distribution of cigarettes, which is discussed in today's Corporate Update story on page 5. The site also has the most complete list of Web sites of interest to New York lawyers and a searchable list of *Law Journal* classified ads. Link to: <http://www.nylj.com>

Sovereign Immunity Statute Is Ruled Out

South Carolina Law Called No Shield Here

BY DANIEL WISE

NEW YORK State should not apply a foreign state's sovereign immunity statute to shield an out-of-state driver from liability for a car accident here, the Appellate Division, Second Department has ruled.

In a unanimous reversal Monday of a lower court ruling, the panel barred the University of South Carolina and

two of its employees from asserting sovereign immunity as a defense in a damage action arising from a car accident in Suffolk County.

The decision will be published tomorrow.

The statute, the South Carolina Claims Act, creates a limited waiver of the state's immunity to set procedure for personal injury suits against South Carolina employees in that state's courts. The statute, however, expressly says that South Carolina waives its immunity to be sued in the courts of other states.

Justice Albert M. Rosenblatt, writing for the court in *Morrison v. Car Systems Inc.*, analyzed the principles of comity which govern when one state should apply the law of another, and concluded that New York courts should not extend South Carolina state defendant immunity granted them by that state's laws.

Justice Rosenblatt pointed to several factors that militated against New York applying the South Carolina



Justice Albert M. Rosenblatt

Continued on page 7, c

City Bar Urges Circuit Vacancies

BY DEBORAH PINES

CALLING on the White House and Congress to "put aside partisan bickering" and promptly fill vacancies on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, a city bar group yesterday launched a lobbying campaign.

"The current stalemate punishes hardworking judges and threatens the quality of decision-making that lit