

ALBANY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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News Release Contact

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IN RATING THE COURT OF APPEALS NOMINEES, THE ALBANY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION HAS FOUND FIVE NOMINEES “HIGHLY QUALIFIED” AND TWO “QUALIFIED”

Albany County Bar Association President Janet Silver has sent a letter to Governor Andrew Cuomo with the Association’s ratings for the seven nominees under consideration for appointment as associate judge of the New York State Court of Appeals.

To assist with the appointment process, the Association’s 11-member Court of Appeals Judicial Screening Committee, co-chaired by Robert T. Schofield, Esq. and Elena DeFio Kean, Esq., reviewed each nominee’s background and evaluated their decisions and/or writings. The Committee then conducted personal interviews with each nominee in Albany on January 4, 2016. In evaluating the nominees, the Association’s Judicial Screening Committee considered: judicial temperament; legal ability and experience; legal writing ability; general reputation, character and fitness; industriousness, diligence and promptness; impartiality, freedom from bias and prejudice; and the current composition, expertise, needs and/or experience(s) of the Court.

Based on those evaluations, the Albany County Bar Association has rated the nominees as follows:

Caitlin J. Halligan, Esq. – Highly Qualified

Hon. Judith J. Gische – Qualified

Benjamin E. Rosenberg, Esq. – Qualified

In a previous round of interviews, the Court of Appeals Judicial Screening Committee rated Michael J. Garcia, Esq. – Highly Qualified; Hon. Erin M. Peradotto – Highly Qualified; Rowan D. Wilson, Esq. – Highly Qualified; and Stephen P. Younger, Esq. – Highly Qualified.

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