

# EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BECOMING A JUDGE



Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission



Latino Judges Association

**Monday, April 24, 2023**

University at Buffalo School of Law

• O'Brian Hall – 211 Mary Talbert Way, Buffalo, NY • 9:00am - 5:00pm •

6 CLE Credits (4 credits Professional Practice, 1 credit Ethics, 1 credit Diversity)

## Agenda:

**8:30 - 9:00** Registration

**9:00 - 9:15** Welcome/Introduction

**Thomas J. Garry, Esq.**, *Partner, Harris Beach PLLC; Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commissioner*

**Dean Aviva Abramovsky**, *Dean and Professor, University at Buffalo School of Law*

**Hon. Walter Rivera**, *Judge, New York State Court of Claims, President, Latino Judges Association*

**9:15 - 10:15** Ensuring a Pipeline for Diversity on the Judiciary Outside of New York City

**Moderator:**

**Professor Paula Johnson**, Professor, Syracuse University School of Law, Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commissioner

**Panelists:**

**Hon. Kevin M. Carter**, Administrative Judge, Eighth Judicial District

**Hon. Karen Bailey Turner**, Judge, Monroe County Court

**Hon. Betty Calvo-Torres**, Judge, Court of Claims and Supervising Judge of the Town and Village Justice Courts for Wyoming and Genesee Counties

**Hon. Acea Mosey**, Judge, Erie County Surrogate's Court

**Hon. Meredith A. Vacca**, Judge, Monroe County Court

**10:15 - 10:25** BREAK

**10:25 - 11:25** Securing the Nomination in Supreme Court

**Moderator:**

**Hon. Llinét Rosado**, *Supreme Court, Bronx County; Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commissioner*

**Panelists:**

**Hon. Jeannette Ogden**, *Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Fourth Department*

**Hon. Craig Hannah**, *Justice, Supreme Court, Erie County*

**Jeremy Zellner**, *Chair, Erie County Democratic Committee*

**Mike Kracker**, *Chair, Erie County Republican Committee*

**11:25 - 11:30** BREAK

11:30 - 12:30	<b>Election Law Overview &amp; Related Ethical Requirements</b> <u>Moderator:</u> Thomas J. Garry, Esq., <i>Partner, Harris Beach PLLC; Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commissioner</i> <u>Panelists:</u> Arthur W. Greig, Esq., <i>Law Offices of Arthur W. Grieg, P.C.</i> Jessica Kulpit, Esq., <i>Election Law Practitioner, Erie County</i>
12:30 - 1:30	LUNCH
1:30 - 2:30	<b>Making the Ballot in Village, Town, City, County and Family Courts</b> <u>Moderator:</u> Paul Kenny, Esq., <i>Chief Clerk, Supreme Court, Appellate Term, Second Department; Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commissioner</i> <u>Panelists:</u> Hon. JaHarr Pridgen, <i>Chief Judge, Buffalo City Court</i> Hon. Gary A. Wilson, Jr., <i>Judge, Buffalo City Court</i> Brian Quail, Esq., <i>Counsel to State Board of Elections</i> Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney, Esq., <i>VP of Erie County Democratic Committee</i>
2:30 - 2:40	BREAK
2:40 - 3:40	<b>Appointment Process for New York State Court of Claims</b> <u>Moderator:</u> Hon. Walter Rivera, <i>Judge, New York State Court of Claims, President, Latino Judges Association</i> <u>Panelists:</u> Hon. Richard E. Sise, <i>Presiding Judge, New York State Court of Claims</i> Hon. Debra L. Givens, <i>Judge, New York State Court of Claims</i> Hon. Stephen T. Miller, <i>Judge, New York State Court of Claims</i> Hon. Stephanie Saunders, <i>Judge, New York State Court of Claims</i> Sandra Rivera, Esq., <i>Counsel, Judicial Appointments, Office of Governor Kathy Hochul</i>
3:40 - 3:50	BREAK
3:50 - 4:50	<b>The Role of a Family Court: Changing the Narrative and Why the Family Court Needs You</b> <u>Moderator:</u> Hon. Richard Rivera, <i>Judge, New York State Court of Claims, President, Latino Judges Association</i> <u>Panelists:</u> Hon. Fatimat O. Reid, <i>Judge, Monroe County Family Court</i> Tiffany Perry, Esq., <i>Court Attorney Referee, Erie County Family Court</i> Anaiss Rijo-Lelonek, Esq., <i>Counsel for the Erie County Department of Social Services</i>
4:50 - 5:00	CLOSING REMARKS
5:00 - 6:00	RECEPTION