

60



JUSTICE FOR ALL ...

THE NATIONAL
JUDICIAL COLLEGE

Our Pledge for 60 Years

NEW YORK CITY CELEBRATION

JUSTICE FOR ALL...Being Heard and Ensuring Fairness

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023
NEW YORK ATHLETIC CLUB
NEW YORK CITY



THE VICE PRESIDENT

September 18, 2023

I am honored to extend my greetings and congratulations to the National Judicial College (NJC) as you celebrate your 60th anniversary.

Since its founding, the NJC has dedicated itself to educating and empowering the next generation of judges by providing key resources and support. Your unwavering dedication to the judicial system promotes freedom and justice for all and will leave a lasting impact for generations to come. I am grateful for your continued leadership.

As former District Attorney of San Francisco and Attorney General of California, I recognize how critical an independent judiciary is to a healthy democracy. When a judicial system is fair, it gives people freedom and the certainty that there will be an equal application of the law to all individuals throughout our country.

Congratulations again on this milestone, and on behalf of our Nation, thank you for all that you do. I send my warmest wishes for a bright future ahead.

AFTERNOON PROGRAM

4 - 5:30 p.m.

Welcome

Edward R. Blumberg - NJC Board of Trustees Chair

Hon. Benes Z. Aldana (Ret.) - NJC President & CEO

Special Recognition

Mario Gabelli - Founder, Chair & CEO, Gabelli Asset Management Company Investors

Authors Panel

Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Hon. Mark Dillon - Associate Justice, Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Second Judicial Department

The First Chief Justice: John Jay and the Struggle of a New Nation

Bruce Jackson - Associate General Counsel & Managing Director for Strategic Partnerships, Office of the President at Microsoft

Never Far From Home: My Journey From Brooklyn to Hip Hop, Microsoft, and the Law

Loida Lewis - Chair & CEO, TLC Beatrice, LLC

Why Should Guys Have All the Fun?: An Asian American Story of Love, Marriage, Motherhood, and Running a Billion Dollar Empire

Hon. Albert Rosenblatt (Ret.) - former Associate Judge, New York Court of Appeals

The Eight: the Lemmon Slave Case and the Fight for Freedom

Moderator: **Hon. Bernice B. Donald (Ret.)** - former judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Co-Editor, ***Extending Justice: Strategies to Increase Inclusion and Reduce Bias***

EVENING PROGRAM

6 p.m. **Welcome**

Master of Ceremonies **Mark G. Tratos** - NJC Trustee Emeritus

Edward R. Blumberg - NJC Board of Trustees Chair

“America the Beautiful” Performed by **Talia Suskauer**

Sandra Rivera - New York State Executive Chamber Senior Counsel

Hon. Sylvia Hinds-Radix - New York City Corporation Counsel

Hon. Benes Z. Aldana (Ret.) - NJC President & CEO

6:30 p.m. **Being Heard & Ensuring Fairness Panels**

Panel I

Moderator: **Mark G. Tratos**

Chief Judge Rowan Wilson - New York State Court of Appeals

Chief Administrative Judge Joseph Zayas - New York State Unified Court System

First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George - New York State Unified Court System

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives Edwina G. Richardson-Mendelson - New York State Unified Court System

Panel II

Moderator: **Edward R. Blumberg**

Chief Justice Robert Torres - Supreme Court of Guam

Chief Judge Thomas Zonay - Superior Court of Vermont

Judge Jennifer Choe-Groves - U.S. Court of International Trade

Panel III

Moderator: **Hon. Kathie E. Davidson**, Dean, New York Judicial Institute

Hank Greenberg - Shareholder, Greenberg Traurig; Chair of the Commission to Reimagine the Future of New York Courts

Steven Banks - Special Counsel, Pro Bono, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP

Adriene Holder - Chief Attorney, Civil Practice, The Legal Aid Society of New York

7:30 p.m. **Making the World a More Just Place Awards**

7:50 p.m. **60th Anniversary Champagne Toast**

Musical selection by **Marvin Carr**

8 - 9 p.m. **Cocktail Reception**

ABOUT THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE

Founded in 1963 and based on the campus of the University of Nevada, Reno since 1964, The National Judicial College remains the only educational institution in the United States that teaches courtroom skills to judges of all types from all over the country, Indian Country and abroad. The categories of judges served by the nonprofit and nonpartisan institution – trial and appellate, limited jurisdiction, administrative law, tribal and military – decide more than 95 percent of cases in the United States. For more information, visit www.judges.org.





Hon. Benes Z. Aldana (Ret.)

President, The National Judicial College

Benes Z. Aldana serves as the ninth President and CEO of The National Judicial College, the premier provider of judicial education in the United States, offering more than 100 educational programs annually to thousands of judges. Prior to joining the NJC in 2017, he served for 22 years in the United States Coast Guard in various leadership roles, retiring as a captain (O-6) and as the first Asian Pacific American to serve as chief trial judge of a U.S. military branch.



Steven Banks

Special Counsel, Pro Bono, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP

Mr. Banks manages and oversees the firm's broader pro bono strategy. From 2014 through 2022, he served as commissioner of the New York City Department of Social Services, the largest social services agency in the United States.



Edward R. Blumberg*

Chair, National Judicial College Board of Trustees

Mr. Blumberg is a founder and partner in the Miami trial law firm of Deutsch Blumberg & Caballero, P.A. He is a past president of the Florida Bar, the country's third-largest bar, and a former member of the Board of Governors of the Florida Bar and the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association.



Marvin Carr

Racial equity scholar and philanthropist

Dr. Carr is a scholar and leader in racial equity, STEM education and corporate diversity, currently serving as a director in corporate philanthropy. His experience includes service in the Obama White House and academia.



Hon. Jennifer Choe-Groves

U.S. Court of International Trade

Nominated by President Obama, Judge Choe-Groves has served on the United States Court of International Trade since 2016. Based in New York City, this federal court adjudicates civil actions arising out of U.S. customs and international trade laws.



Hon. Kathie E. Davidson*

Dean, New York Judicial Institute

Judge Davidson oversees the creation and delivery of training seminars for newly elected and appointed judges in the New York Unified Court System as well as continuing education programs for the system's judges and lawyers, and cooperative education programs with state and federal judicial systems, legal academics and other interested stakeholders.



Hon. Mark Dillon

Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Supreme Court of the State of New York

Mark Dillon was elected to the state Supreme Court in 1999. In 2005 he was elevated to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, Second Department. He is the author, most recently, of *The First Chief Justice: John Jay and the Struggle of a New Nation*.



Hon. Bernice B. Donald (Ret.)*

Former judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

In 2011 Bernice Donald became the first African-American woman to serve on the 6th Circuit. In 2022 she became the first judge competitively selected to receive the NJC's Sandra Day O'Connor Award for contributions to justice. She is the co-editor of *Extending Justice: Strategies to Increase Inclusion and Reduce Bias*.



Mario Gabelli

Founder, Chair & CEO, Gabelli Asset Management Company Investors

Mr. Gabelli founded GAMCO Investors Inc., headquartered in Greenwich, Connecticut, in 1977. In 2020 he was inducted into both the Barron's All-Century Team, a list of the most influential mutual fund industry portfolio managers, and the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans.



Hank Greenberg

Shareholder, Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Henry M. Greenberg is an experienced trial and appellate lawyer with Greenberg Traurig in Albany, New York, and past president of the New York State Bar Association. Since 2020, he has served as chair of the Commission to Reimagine the Future of New York's Courts.



Adriene Holder

Chief Attorney, Civil Practice, The Legal Aid Society of New York

Ms. Holder has devoted her entire professional career to challenging poverty and racial injustice for the advancement of equal rights. She manages a network of neighborhood offices, courthouse-based offices, and specialized citywide units serving all five boroughs of New York City with more than 500 staff working on more than 50,000 cases each year.



Bruce Jackson

Associate General Counsel & Managing Director for Strategic Partnerships, Office of the President, Microsoft

Bruce Jackson was born in Brooklyn, studied law at Georgetown University, and spent a decade working in entertainment law with some of the top music talent in the country prior to joining Microsoft in 2000. His first book is *Never Far From Home: My Journey From Brooklyn to Hip Hop, Microsoft, and the Law*.



Loida Lewis

Chair & CEO, TLC Beatrice, LLC

National Judicial College Trustee and Filipino-born lawyer Loida Nicolas Lewis served as chair and CEO of TLC Beatrice International, a \$2 billion multinational food company, from 1994 – 2000, assuming its leadership after the death of her husband, Reginald F. Lewis. She is the author, most recently, of *Why Should Guys Have All the Fun?: An Asian American Story of Love, Marriage, Motherhood, and Running a Billion Dollar Empire*.



Hon. Edwina G. Richardson-Mendelson

Office for Justice Initiatives, New York State Unified Court System

In her current position, Judge Richardson-Mendelson is tasked with ensuring meaningful access to justice for all New Yorkers in civil, criminal and family courts, regardless of income, background, or ability. She has led the New York state court system's equal justice and anti-bias endeavors that commenced in 2020.



Hon. Albert Rosenblatt (Ret.)

Former Associate Judge, New York Court of Appeals

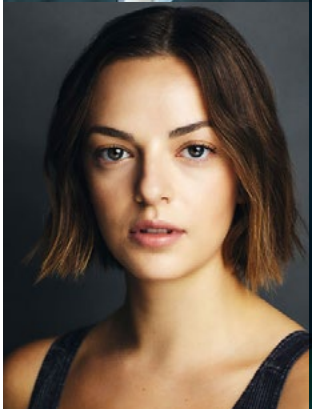
Judge Rosenblatt began his career as district attorney of Dutchess County, New York, and served on the New York Court of Appeals from 1998-2006. He currently teaches part time at the New York University School of Law. His most recent book is *The Eight: the Lemmon Slave Case and the Fight for Freedom*.



Hon. Norman St. George

**First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge,
New York State Unified Court System**

In his current position, Judge St. George holds the second-highest-ranking administration position within the New York State Judiciary. He oversees all trial-level courts throughout the state as well as all departments and operations within the Office of Court Administration.



Talia Suskauer

New York-based actress

Talia Suskauer recently completed her tenure as Elphaba in *Wicked* on Broadway after touring the country as Elphaba since 2019. She has also performed on Broadway in *Be More Chill*, around the country regionally, and in New York City at 54 Below and Carnegie Hall.



Hon. Robert J. Torres

Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Guam

Justice Torres was appointed to the Supreme Court of Guam in 2004 and is serving his third term as chief justice. He is an executive committee member of the Pacific Judicial Council and a past president of the American Judges Association.

Mark G. Tratos*

Shareholder, Greenberg Traurig, LLP

An emeritus trustee of The National Judicial College, Mark Tratos is the founding shareholder of Greenberg Traurig's Las Vegas office. He has represented many artists and performers, including Teller, Ozzy Osbourne, David Copperfield, and Floyd Mayweather as well as corporate clients Disney and Pixar.



Hon. Rowan Wilson

Chief Judge, New York State Court of Appeals

Judge Wilson joined the Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, as an associate judge in 2017 and earlier this year was confirmed to the post of chief judge. In 1992 he became the first African-American partner at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP and eventually headed the firm's pro bono practice.



Hon. Joseph A. Zayas

Chief Administrative Judge, New York State Unified Court System

As chief administrative judge, Judge Zayas oversees the day-to-day administration and operation of the state's court system, which has a \$3.3 billion budget, 3,300 state and local judges, and 15,000 non-judicial employees. He was previously an associate justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department, an intermediate appellate court with jurisdiction over portions of New York City and its suburbs.



Hon. Thomas A. Zonay

Chief Judge, Superior Court of Vermont

A member of the faculty of The National Judicial College since 2012 and immediate past chair of the Faculty Council, Judge Zonay has served as chief superior judge for the State of Vermont since 2021. He chairs the Vermont Sentencing Commission and a past president of the Vermont and New England Bar Association.

*panel moderator

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