

NEW YORK
JUDGE REVIEWS

AND COURT DIRECTORY

2013-2014 EDITION

VOLUME ONE



**JAMES
PUBLISHING**
INCORPORATED

LAW PUBLISHERS

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ISBN 1-58012-057-1

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3505 Cadillac Avenue, Suite P-101
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

1997-1998 Edition, 5/97
1998-1999 Edition, 7/98
1999-2000 Edition, 3/00
2002-2003 Edition, 6/02
2003-2004 Edition, 6/03
2004-2005 Edition, 5/04
2005-2006 Edition, 6/05
2006-2007 Edition, 4/06
2007-2008 Edition, 4/07
2008-2009 Edition, 8/08
2009-2010 Edition, 5/09
2010-2011 Edition, 5/10
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PREFACE

ORGANIZATION OF MATERIAL

The Directory provides a listing of the justices or judges, key court personnel, addresses and phone numbers of all New York State Courts.

Counties are listed alphabetically. Each county listing contains the names, addresses, and phone numbers of key county officials who pertain to court functions, the listing for the State Supreme Court located in that county, and all of the county's courts.

In each court listing are the names, addresses, phone numbers, and, in some cases, fax numbers and e-mail addresses of court-related officials, a picture of the Supreme Court located in that county, directions to all of the courts in that county, and a roster of all of the judges in that county.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the Directory accurately reflects the status and organization of the courts as of April 2013. The information contained therein was supplied to us by the clerks in each court. However, addresses and phone numbers of courts and judges, and election and assignments of judges, are subject to frequent change and should be used with caution. Current assignments may be obtained from the court clerk's office or from the Office of Court Administration. Court clerks are welcome to bring any errors to our attention throughout the year.

The judge biography entries are set out in alphabetical order with category headings in bold for easy reference and readability. Biographical data on Justices, Acting Justices, and some Judicial Hearing Officers of the New York State Supreme Courts, as well as some Federal Judges sitting in New York is included. The information contained in the Profiles was provided to us by the judges themselves, the OCA, and other various sources. The Special Rules were copied verbatim from handouts provided by the court clerks or signs posted in or near the courtroom. Judges were supplied with their Biography and have updated it personally. We will make every effort to augment each Biography yearly with as much information as can be found and verified. We stand ready to correct in the next edition any errors brought to our attention during the year. *Note:* We recognize that not all judges in New York are included in this book.

Following the biographical profile of many New York State Supreme Court Justices is an Attorneys' Comments section, which gives a candid review by five to ten attorneys who have appeared before that judge. The reviews address the judge's temperament and demeanor, skill on the bench, style of conducting trials, skill and effort with settlement negotiations, policy on continuances and adjournments, and proclivities. There are also suggestions about specific aspects of that judge's courtroom style and policies to bear in mind. Quotes strung together are all from different attorneys. Attorneys interviewed are randomly chosen and have no affiliation with our publication.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Mark Thompson graduated from Columbia Law School in 1983 and has been a journalist and writer ever since. He worked as an assistant editor at the Smithsonian Institute's *Wilson Quarterly* for several years before moving to Los Angeles to take a job at the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*, where he covered topics ranging from international law to the U.S. Supreme Court, wrote judicial profiles and edited the opinion section. Mr. Thompson left the *Daily Journal* in 1997 to work full time as a freelance writer and to complete a book, *American Character*, a biography of the eccentric journalist Charles Fletcher Lummis, which was published in the spring of 2001. His articles have appeared in many newspapers and magazines including the *Atlantic Monthly*, *New Republic*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Economist* and *Far Eastern Economic Review*.

Elizabeth Smith graduated from the University of Texas Law School. She has since clerked for a California judge, taught as an adjunct professor of criminal justice, and profiled numerous business executives for two Texas newspapers. Shortly after obtaining her second graduate degree in the 1990s, she spent 18 months working in-house for Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker, helping the firm prepare the two-volume treatise *Employment Discrimination Law* for publication by BNA. She has been designated an "honor roll" contributor to that treatise. For over ten years, Ms. Smith also provided political science and legal research to West Publishing's *Texas Politics* series authored by Richard H. Kraemer and Charldean Newell. She later served as sole editor of a judge's text on arbitration and sharpened her editing skills while working for newspapers in both Texas and California. In addition to her *New York Judge Reviews* and *Court Directory* writing tasks, Ms. Smith edits a variety of materials on a consulting basis and contributes freelance articles to a number of prestigious print and online publications, including *The Wall Street Journal*.

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