

**NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION
ON LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

**Minutes of Public Meeting
New York City Bar Association – November 3, 2015**

Attendance – Sheila Birnbaum (Chair), Hon. Barry A. Cozier (Ret.), Roman Hedges (by phone), Gary Johnson, Hon. James J. Lack (Ret.), Fran Reiter (by phone).

I. Introduction of Members

Ms. Birnbaum convened the meeting at 9:05 a.m, and the members of the Commission were introduced. Commissioner Mitra Hormozi was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict.

II. Discussion of the Commission’s Work and Process

The Commission’s first meeting was limited to discussion of organizational and procedural matters in connection with the first phase of its work relating to judicial compensation. The meeting was open to the public under the Open Meetings Law and was recorded for public viewing on the Commission’s website: www.nyscommissiononcompensation.org. Future Commission meetings and public hearings will be broadcast live over the web. The Commission’s website will provide an email address and a mailing address for persons wishing to send written communications to the Commission.

The Commission should comply closely with the Open Meetings Law and ensure that sufficient notice is provided of future meetings and that videoconferencing is used when a Commission member is unable to attend in person.

The Commission will be operating on a tight schedule given that its report on judicial compensation is due no later than December 31. The Commission determined that it should hold a public hearing in New York City on November 30, at 11 a.m. The location will be announced as soon as a suitable venue is found. The Commission’s next meeting will be held on December 7 to discuss the input received during the public hearing. A subsequent meeting will be held on December 16. All meetings will start at 11 a.m. to accommodate travel schedules. Meeting dates and locations will be posted on the Commission’s website.

The Commission asked to review judicial salary data for other states, including similar large states, and for the federal judiciary. The Commission stated that judicial salary comparisons between New York and other states should be adjusted to take into account regional variations in the cost of living. The Commission also will review historical Consumer Price Index data for the Northeast Urban Region (CPI-U).

III. Housekeeping

The Commissioners were asked to provide short bios for posting on the Commission's website. Requests for reimbursement of travel expenses should be submitted to the Commissioner's appointing authority within 30 days of travel. Information will be provided regarding a contact person for each branch for travel reimbursement.