

GREENE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Incorporated, October 9, 1902 in Catskill, New York

November 2, 2023

VIA US MAIL & EMAIL: nyscompensation@gmail.com

Hon. Eugene M. Fahey (Ret.), Chair
NYS Commission on Legislative, Judicial & Executive Compensation
64 Beaver Street, Box 454
New York, New York 10004

Dear Hon. Fahey:

Following unanimous approval from our Board of Directors/Officers, I am writing on behalf of the Greene County Bar Association (GCBA) to urge the 2023 Quadrennial Salary Commission to return the Supreme Court Justices in our great State to pay parity with the Federal district court judges, consistent with the recommendations made by the 2011 and 2015 Commissions.

It is our understanding that New York State Supreme Court Justices have not had a salary increase since April of 2019 – of which, such raise was between 1%-2%. Despite this, unprecedented inflation has diluted and usurped any benefit offered by such raise – which still lags behind their counterparts in Federal trial courts. All the while, our Supreme Court Justices tackled further unprecedented complications borne from the pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, often requiring Herculean efforts to complete even the most perfunctory of judicial tasks – let alone engaging in some of the most complicated – an essential – functions of our trial judges, to wit: hearings and trials which continued to occur, even accelerated, during the pandemic.

By returning our Supreme Court Justices to federal parity, our State will be able to retain valuable and experienced jurists, while also attracting quality judicial candidates to serve the public. Not only is such raise justified based on the foregoing, but further considering the salary increases in the other branches of government, our Justices are deserving of at least counteracting rampant inflation – but really deserve more: true parity.

Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very Truly Yours,



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