



# **NEWS RELEASE**

**New York State  
Unified Court System**

**Hon. Joseph A. Zayas  
Chief Administrative Judge**

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## **Hon. Adam Silvera Named Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for the New York City Courts**

**NEW YORK**—Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas today announced the appointment of Hon. Adam Silvera as Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for the New York City Courts. The appointment was made with the approval of Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson and after consultation with Appellate Division Presiding Justices Dianne T. Renwick (First Department) and Hector D. LaSalle (Second Department). In his new capacity, Judge Silvera will be responsible for oversight of the administration and day-to-day operations of New York City’s trial courts, which are among the largest and most voluminous in the country. He succeeds Supreme Court Justice Deborah A. Kaplan, who will now lead a citywide ADR initiative within the court system, enabling her to expand upon her work mediating complex civil matters from across the city.

“Judge Silvera is a talented jurist and forward-thinking leader with strong administrative skills and intimate knowledge of court system operations. An exemplary member of New York’s judiciary who is widely admired for his fairness, hard work, and collegiality, he has deftly navigated the many operational and other challenges he faced over the past three years as the Administrative Judge of New York County’s Supreme Court-Civil Term in Manhattan,” said Chief Administrative Judge Zayas. “I am eager to work with him in his new capacity in our efforts to meet the varied and evolving justice needs of those served by the trial courts throughout the City’s five boroughs.”

“Judge Silvera is an accomplished judge and administrator who, always ready to roll up his sleeves, brings tremendous energy, creativity, and integrity to this enormously critical, wide-reaching administrative post. I have enjoyed our ongoing collaboration throughout the years and look forward to working with him in his new role—and to the many accomplishments to come under his innovative leadership,” said First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George.

“I want to express my deep thanks to the judicial leadership of the New York State Unified Court System for trusting me to help carry out their continuing vision for our third branch of government,” said Judge Silvera. “I want them to know that my steadfast commitment to administering fair and effective justice for all New Yorkers will endure as I embark upon my new position. I promise to work tirelessly to get it right, to collaborate with my judicial and non-judicial colleagues, and with our many stakeholder partners so that together we can continue moving forward in building an invigorated court system that reflects our shared civic values,” said Judge Silvera.

Hon. Adam Silvera has been serving as Administrative Judge for the State Supreme Court-Civil Term in New York County since December 2021. His judicial career began in 2014, when he was elected to the New York City Civil Court. Judge Silvera first served as a Family Court judge in Brooklyn, handling cases involving custody, visitation, paternity, guardianship, special immigrant juvenile status, adoption, and family offenses. He was subsequently assigned to the New York City Civil Court bench in Brooklyn and presided over a dedicated consumer credit and self-represented part. He later served in New York City Civil Court in Manhattan, handling consumer credit and other matters.

In July 2017, Judge Silvera was designated an acting Supreme Court Justice and assigned to New York City Family Court’s Integrated Domestic Relations Part in Manhattan, where he presided over Family Court matters as well as divorce actions filed in New York County Supreme Court. He was elected in 2018 to the State’s Supreme Court-Civil Term in New York County, where he initially presided over a motor vehicle part and later served as the New York City Asbestos Litigation Coordinating Judge in addition to other duties. In October 2021, he was elevated to the Appellate Term, First Department, hearing appeals in cases originating in the New York City Civil Court and the New York City Criminal Court. Prior to taking the bench, he was a senior associate at Paul B. Weitz & Associates, a firm specializing in personal injury, negligence, medical malpractice, labor law, and civil rights matters. Judge Silvera is a graduate of Brooklyn Law School.

In appreciation of outgoing Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Kaplan, Judges Zayas and St. George added, “We are thankful to Judge Kaplan for her longstanding judicial service and many contributions to the court system in a variety of key administrative posts. Prior to her tenure as Deputy Chief Administrative Judge, she served simultaneously as Administrative Judge of New York County Supreme Court’s Civil Term and interim Administrative Judge of Richmond County, and before that was the Statewide Coordinating Judge for Family Violence Cases.”

“The years I have worked in administration have been challenging and deeply rewarding, and it has been particularly gratifying to have had the good fortune of working with the current leadership,” said Judge Kaplan. “However, I am anxious to be back in the courtroom daily, striving to provide relief to those who come to our courts seeking resolution of weighty matters. I am also excited to continue my roles as co-chair of the Justice Task Force and chair of the New York State Committee on Elder Justice.”

Judge Silvera’s appointment will take effect on September 9, 2024.

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