



**Appellate Division
Supreme Court of the State of New York
Second Judicial Department**

**Independent Judicial Election
Qualification Commissions
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Second Judicial Department Independent Judicial
Election Qualification Commissions Announce
2017 Final List of Candidate Ratings**

(BROOKLYN HEIGHTS, N.Y.) Pursuant to Part 150 of the Rules of the Chief Administrator of the Courts, Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commissions ("IJEQCs") have been established in each of the judicial districts of New York State. The IJEQCs are a statewide network of independent screening panels for judicial candidates. Each IJEQC is charged with the responsibility of evaluating the qualifications of candidates within its judicial district who submit a questionnaire and are seeking election to the following New York State Courts: Supreme, County, Surrogate's, Family, New York City Civil, District, and City.

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The IJEQCs' role is to determine whether candidates are "Highly Qualified," "Qualified" or "Not Qualified" for the judicial office to which they seek election. The criteria for evaluation include: professional ability; character, independence and integrity; reputation for fairness and lack of bias; and temperament, including courtesy and patience. Candidates found Highly Qualified must be preeminent members of the legal profession in their community; have outstanding professional ability, work ethic, intellect, judgment and breadth of experience relevant to the office being sought; possess the highest reputation for honesty, integrity and good character, including the absence of any significant professional disciplinary record; and either demonstrate or exhibit the highest capacity for distinguished judicial temperament, including courtesy, patience, independence, impartiality and respect for all participants in the legal process.

After careful consideration, the Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commissions for the Second Judicial Department have recently announced the following ratings.

**Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commissions
2017 List of Rated Candidates**

<u>Judicial District</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Judicial Position</u>	<u>Rating</u>
2nd JD	Balter, Bruce M.	Supreme Court Justice	Highly Qualified
2nd JD	Pepper, David C.	Judge of the Civil Court	Highly Qualified
<u>Judicial District</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Judicial Position</u>	<u>Rating</u>
9th JD	Acker, Christi J.	Supreme Court Justice	Highly Qualified
9th JD	Murray, Linda M.	Supreme Court Justice	Qualified
9th JD	Fufidio, George E.	Judge of the County Court	Highly Qualified

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<u>Judicial District</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Judicial Position</u>	<u>Rating</u>
11th JD	Aloise, Michael	Supreme Court Justice	Highly Qualified
11th JD	Caloras, Robert I.	Supreme Court Justice	Qualified
11th JD	Elliot, David	Supreme Court Justice	Highly Qualified
11th JD	Evans, Lance	Supreme Court Justice	Highly Qualified
11th JD	Golia, Donna-Marie E.	Supreme Court Justice	Highly Qualified
11th JD	Johnson, Denise N.	Supreme Court Justice	Qualified
11th JD	Lasak, Gregory L.	Supreme Court Justice	Highly Qualified
11th JD	Latin, Richard G.	Supreme Court Justice	Highly Qualified
11th, JD	Pandit-Durant, Ushir	Supreme Court Justice	Qualified

<u>Judicial District</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Judicial Position</u>	<u>Rating</u>
11th JD	Berger, David M.	Judge of the Civil Court	Qualified
11th JD	Evans, Lance	Judge of the Civil Court	Highly Qualified
11th JD	Gargan, Jessica E.	Judge of the Civil Court	Qualified
11th JD	Hom, Phillip	Judge of the Civil Court	Qualified
11th JD	Johnson, Denise N.	Judge of the Civil Court	Highly Qualified
11th JD	Latin, Richard G.	Judge of the Civil Court	Highly Qualified
11th JD	Newton, Elizabeth J.	Judge of the Civil Court	Qualified
11th JD	Ogle, Andrea S.	Judge of the Civil Court	Qualified
11th JD	Sin, Jessica	Judge of the Civil Court	Qualified
11th JD	Newton, Elizabeth J.	Judge of the Family Court	Qualified
11th JD	Ogle, Andrea S.	Judge of the Family Court	Highly Qualified

For a list of 2016 and 2015 rated candidates and information regarding the evaluation process, visit the IJEQC web page at <http://www.ny-ijeqc.org> or contact Vivian Dearie by email at vdearie@nycourts.gov or by calling 347-401-9248.
