



# **NEWS RELEASE**

**New York State  
Unified Court System**

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

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## **Supervising Judge Named to New York County Supreme Court's Matrimonial Division in Manhattan**

**NEW YORK CITY**—Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas and First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George today announced the appointment of New York County Acting Supreme Court Justice Michael L. Katz as Supervising Judge of the New York County Supreme Court's Matrimonial Division in Manhattan. The appointment was made in consultation with Appellate Division, First Department Presiding Justice Dianne T. Renwick, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts Adam Silvera, and New York County Supreme Court-Civil Term Administrative Judge Suzanne J. Adams.

In his new role, Judge Katz will oversee the day-to-day administration and operations of the Manhattan court's Matrimonial Division, which handles various aspects of family law, including divorce, custody, and support matters.

"New York County Supreme Court's Matrimonial Division deals with some of the most complex cases in our court system. Judge Katz's judicial expertise, fairness, and deep understanding of family law will ensure the division continues to provide timely, compassionate justice to Manhattan families in highly sensitive matters affecting their stability and well-being," said Judge Zayas.

"Judge Katz has served the Unified Court System in a variety of capacities for over thirty years, presiding over matrimonial matters in New York County Supreme Court for the past decade. His extensive legal knowledge, collaborative leadership style, and commitment to justice will serve him well in balancing the many demands of this pivotal supervisory assignment," said Judge St. George.

"Judge Katz is well-versed in matrimonial and family law. His legal acumen, impartiality, judicial demeanor, and collegial manner will allow him to excel in his well-earned position as Supervising Judge of the New York County Supreme Court's Matrimonial Division in Manhattan," said Justice Renwick.

Hon. Michael L. Katz began his legal career as a Court Attorney in New York City Civil Court, followed by his service as a Principal Law Clerk to then New York County Supreme Court Justice Barbara Kapnick. He was elected to the New York City Civil Court in 2011 and subsequently named an acting Family Court judge, serving in Kings County Family Court in Brooklyn from 2011 to 2015, presiding over custody, visitation, and family offense proceedings.

Judge Katz was designated an acting New York County Supreme Court justice in 2015, handling a variety of civil matters and conducting hearings and trials. He has been presiding in the New York County Supreme Court's Matrimonial Division since March 2016 and has served as co-chair of the First Judicial District's Matrimonial Advisory Committee since 2022.

He is a graduate of the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, where he earned the Jonathan Weiss Award for Public Interest Advocacy. He is a board member and former co-president of the Unified Court System's Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert (JALBCA), a former president and current member of the Jewish Lawyers Guild, a previous chair of the New York City Bar Association's Court Procedures and Tort Litigation Subcommittees, and a past co-chair of the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law Alumni Association's Public Interest Practice Group, among his other professional affiliations.

Judge Katz is the recipient of numerous accolades and a frequent lecturer and panelist on a variety of legal topics, including international family and immigration law, the economic implications of divorce, and the impact of long-term supervision on parent-child relationships, in addition to other issues.

"I am grateful to the judicial leadership team for the trust that they have placed in me and am committed to ensuring that the families who appear in our court are treated with compassion and dignity. I look forward to working collaboratively with the leadership, my hardworking colleagues in the Matrimonial Division and the exemplary matrimonial bar to provide for the fair and expeditious resolution of all cases," said Judge Katz.

Judges Silvera and Adams commended the appointment.

"An exemplary jurist and natural leader, Judge Katz is an expert in matrimonial law. His knowledge, sound judgment, and administrative skills will be assets to the Court's Matrimonial Division," said Judge Silvera, welcoming Judge Katz to his new role.

"Judge Katz is a highly respected member of our bench whose legal acumen, work ethic, and leadership abilities will benefit the families served by the Matrimonial Division. I look forward to working with him in his new capacity," said Judge Adams.



Judge Michael L. Katz