NEWS RELEASE

New York State
Unified Court System

Hon. Joseph A. Zayas
Chief Administrative Judge

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New Administrative Judge Named in Brooklyn

NEW YORK CITY—Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas today announced the appointment of Hon. Dineen Ann Riviezzo as Administrative Judge of the Kings County Supreme Court, Criminal Term. The appointment was made in consultation with Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson and Presiding Justice Hector D. LaSalle of the Appellate Division, Second Department.

In her new role, Judge Riviezzo will oversee the daily operations of this high-volume New York City trial court. She will succeed Hon. Matthew D'Emic, who will step down from his administrative duties later this year while continuing to serve as Presiding Judge of the Court's premier Mental Health Part.

"Judge Riviezzo is an exceptional jurist whose deep understanding of the criminal justice system, proven leadership in managing complex cases, and unwavering dedication to fairness make her ideally suited for this vital role," said Chief Administrative Judge Zayas. "I am confident the Kings County Supreme Court's Criminal Term will continue to thrive under her stewardship."

First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George also praised the appointment. "Judge Riviezzo has distinguished herself as a thoughtful leader, effectively guiding high-volume parts and implementing strong case management strategies, while serving as a mentor to many. Her vision and energy will greatly benefit Brooklyn and the entire Unified Court System."

Judge Riviezzo has served on the New York State Court of Claims and as an Acting Supreme Court Justice in Kings County's Criminal Term since 2006, presiding over some of the county's most complex and sensitive criminal matters. She has led the homicide part for many years and, in 2022, was selected to oversee a multi-county specialty gun and robbery part, where her innovations significantly reduced case backlogs.

A statewide leader in judicial education, she is an instructor at the New York State Judicial Institute, training judges and legal staff on discovery reform, criminal practice, case management, and forensic science. She has also taught Legal Research and Writing as an adjunct professor at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law since 2015.

Earlier in her public service career, Judge Riviezzo served as New York State Inspector General and previously served as Chair of the State Commission of Investigation, leading major inquiries into fraud, corruption, organized crime, and public safety matters. Before her judicial service, she worked as a Senior Litigation Associate at Clifford Chance and as an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan, prosecuting major felonies and serving in specialized units including homicide, sex crimes, and narcotics.

She currently serves as President of the New York State Court of Claims Association and is a member of the New York State Justice Task Force, the Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics, and the Advisory Committee on Criminal Law and Procedure. Among her many recognitions are the Catholic Lawyers Guild's Distinguished Judiciary Award (2025) and the Kings County Criminal Bar Association's Hon. Gustin L. Reichbach Judicial Recognition Award (2018).

Judge Riviezzo earned her J.D. cum laude from Georgetown University Law Center and her B.A. magna cum laude from Boston College, where she received the institution's highest graduating honors.

"I am deeply honored by the confidence placed in me by our judicial leadership," said Judge Riviezzo. "I look forward to working closely with my colleagues, court staff, and justice partners to support the Court's mission and to ensure that the Criminal Term continues to serve the people of Kings County with efficiency, integrity, and compassion."

In acknowledging outgoing Administrative Judge D'Emic, Judges Zayas and St. George added, "We are grateful for Judge D'Emic's exemplary leadership over the past 12 years, during which he spearheaded numerous initiatives to improve the delivery and quality of criminal justice. We are fortunate to continue benefiting from his expertise as Presiding Judge of the Court's Mental Health Part, a role he has held since the Part's inception in 2002. He will also remain as co-chair of the Chief Judge's Judicial Task Force on Mental Illness, a post he has held since the Task Force was created."

The appointment will take effect on January 2, 2027.



Judge Dineen Riviezzo

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