



**Appellate Division  
Supreme Court of the State of New York  
Second Judicial Department  
45 Monroe Place  
Brooklyn, NY 11201**

**HON. HECTOR D. LASALLE  
Presiding Justice**

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**Date: September 6, 2022**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department Historic All African-American Bench**

**BROOKLYN, NEW YORK** – On Friday, September 9, 2022, the Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department, arguments on appeal will be heard for the first time by an all African-American bench in the Court's historic courtroom at 45 Monroe Place, Brooklyn, New York.

Associate Justice Valerie Brathwaite Nelson, who sits on the Court's constitutional bench and has served as an associate justice of the Second Judicial Department since April 2016, will be the justice presiding. Justice Brathwaite Nelson will be joined by Associate Justice Cheryl E. Chambers, who was appointed to the Appellate Division, Second Department in February 2008, as the second female African-American justice on the Court, where her Honor served as an associate justice on the constitutional bench from December 2015 through December 2021, and thereafter continued to serve as an associate justice upon her certification in January 2022. Also joining Justice Brathwaite Nelson will be Associate Justice Paul Wooten,

who was appointed to the Appellate Division, Second Department in November 2019, and Associate Justice William G. Ford, who was appointed to the Court in June 2021.

The arguments will be live-streamed and all who wish to view this historic event can access it through the Court's website starting at the 10 a.m. calendar call.

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