NEWS RELEASE

Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas Names Advisory Panel to Study the Impact of Artificial Intelligence on the New York State Courts
Statewide Panel Will Examine Benefits and Risks of Courts' Use of AI Tools

NEW YORK–The vast potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to improve the delivery of justice in New York–as well as the practical, legal, and ethical risks posed by its use–will be key issues of study for a new statewide advisory panel announced today by Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas and First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George.

The Advisory Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the Courts, comprising of judges, court administrators, attorneys, legislators, academics, and other experts from around the State, will be led by Appellate Division, Second Department Associate Justice Angela G. Iannacci, a National Courts and Sciences Institute-certified Science and Technology Resource Judge; Stuart Levi, a partner at Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP and recognized leader in the technology field; and New York University School of Law Professor Jason M. Schultz, a nationally renowned adviser in the field of technology law and policy. The Advisory Committee includes members drawn from national, statewide, and local expert panels examining the impact of AI on the justice system, including the Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Strategic Initiative Jurisdiction Team of the National Courts and Sciences Institute, the American Bar Association's Task Force on Law and Artificial Intelligence, the court system's Court Modernization Action Committee, the Appellate Division, Second Department's AI Task Force, the New York State Bar Association Technology Committee, and the AI Subcommittee of the New York City Bar Task Force on Digital Technologies.

The newly established advisory group has been charged with examining the use of AI tools in the courts by judges, court staff, attorneys, and litigants; identifying the opportunities presented by AI to improve the administration of justice in the New York State court system; minimizing the risks arising from the use of AI tools by staff and officers of the court; and developing appropriate guardrails to ensure that AI is used in the courts safely, responsibly, and effectively.

To that end, the panel will initially focus on certain areas for study and recommendation, including:

- Assessing current and proposed uses of AI by judges, non-judicial personnel, attorneys, and litigants in the New York State Courts;

- Providing AI training and education for judges, attorneys, and non-judicial personnel;

- Identifying best practices for court systems regarding AI use by judges, non-judicial personnel, and other court users;

- Assessing the ethical implications of using AI tools, including by attorneys;

- Considering whether work standards for judges and non-judicial personnel should be updated to address the use and potential misuse of AI tools;

- Examining questions of authenticity that may arise when evidence is created or processed through AI and recommending legislation, rules, or guidelines for how the courts should receive and handle such evidence;

- Identifying opportunities for the court system to use AI to increase access to justice and improve the experience of litigants and other court users;

- Exploring innovations to improve operational efficiency and systems for studying AI use by judges and non-judicial personnel; and

- Determining how to best ensure that AI use in the courts is equitable and transparent, avoids potential biases in AI algorithms, and remains consistent with privacy and confidentiality considerations.

"While these are incredibly exciting times, with AI showing tremendous promise for transforming court operations, improving court experiences for all users, and greatly expanding access to justice, we have to move cautiously in considering the adoption of the use of AI tools. The New York State Courts must aspire to the effective, responsible, and impartial use of AI, taking every step possible to guard against bias and the lack of human input, and to ensure that all security and privacy concerns are protected," said Chief Administrative Judge Zayas. "I have every confidence in the substantial knowledge of this preeminent Committee and in the astute guidance of its three uniquely qualified Co-Chairs—trailblazers Angela Iannacci, Stuart Levi, and Jason Schultz—to carry out this important charge. I look forward to the Committee's recommendations and the advances to come in the quality and delivery of justice in New York."

"AI's potential for driving change is extensive. As the New York State Courts begin to tap its vast potential in our ongoing efforts to streamline court operations, enhance justice services, and more effectively inform the public about the judiciary's important work, we must carefully assess AI's benefits and risks, with the goal to create 'human-centered' AI tools that increase the court system's efficiency and efficacy while also incorporating human creativity and empathy," said First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge St. George. "I am grateful to the Committee's eminent Co-Chairs—each a proven leader in the AI domain—and to the dedicated experts from around the state comprising this distinguished panel, for taking on this momentous task. The Committee's guidance on the many issues surrounding the use of AI will play a pivotal role in the court system's ability to carry out its vital mission in today's world of ever-emerging technologies."

"I am grateful to Chief Administrative Judge Zayas and Deputy Chief Administrative Judge St. George for having the foresight to formulate a task force to assist us all in demystifying the new technology associated with artificial intelligence and navigating its effects on the legal profession. It is a privilege to be working collaboratively with such knowledgeable co-chairs and with the other extraordinary members of the Committee on these important developments," said Justice Iannacci. "Public trust, transparency, and confidence in the courts and legal profession are of paramount importance. Our Committee will work to ensure that these values are safeguarded as we all embrace the transformative changes that AI brings to the practice of law."

"The incorporation of AI systems and tools into the New York State court system should present unprecedented opportunities to improve the overall functioning of the judiciary, including by improving access to justice. However, each of these opportunities also brings with it unprecedented risks. I look forward to working with the Committee to find ways to strike the balance between these opportunities and risks," said Stuart Levi.

"AI systems will have an increasing impact on our judicial system, both in terms of evidence and filings as well as how judges and justices decide cases. I'm honored to work on these issues alongside such a thoughtful and experienced group," said Professor Schultz.

Hon. Angela Iannacci has served as an Associate Justice in the Appellate Division, Second Department since her May 2017 appointment to this mid-level appellate bench, which hears civil and criminal appeals from trial courts in New York City, the Tenth Judicial District (Long Island), and the Ninth Judicial District (Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester counties), an area containing some 50 percent of the State's population. She previously served as Acting Presiding Justice and as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Term in the Ninth and Tenth Judicial Districts. She first began her judicial career upon her 2004 election to the Nassau County Family Court. Later that year, she was appointed an Acting Supreme Court Justice and in 2006 was elected to Nassau County's Supreme Court bench. Justice Iannacci first joined the court system as a Principal Court Attorney to Appellate Term Associate Justice Allan L. Winick. Previously, she managed her own law practice. She began her legal career as a litigation associate, employed by law firms in Long Island and Manhattan.

With her special training as a certified Science and Technology Resource Judge, Justice Iannacci also serves as Co-Chair of the Appellate Division, Second Department's AI Task Force, which was established this past January. Additionally, she was an Adjunct Professor at St. John's University and has been involved in a wide range of professional and civic activities, including as Vice Chair of the American Bar Association Professional Liability Insurance Committee and as a member of the New York State Domestic Violence Task Force, the New York State Anti-Discrimination Panel, and the Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, among others. She is the recipient of numerous accolades, earning Hofstra University's Outstanding Women in Law Award, the Nassau County Columbian Lawyers Association's Distinguished Service Award, the Queens County Columbian Lawyers Association's Distinguished Service Award, and the Nassau-Suffolk Women's Bar Association's Special Recognition Award, along with other honors. She is a graduate of George Washington University and Pace University School of Law and was designated an International Commercial Arbitrator by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, London, England.

Stuart Levi is a partner in the Intellectual Property and Technology Transactions department at Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP and co-head of the firm's Web3 and Digital Assets Group. Utilizing his background in and expansive understanding of computer science and the information technology industry, he has a broad and diverse practice that includes advising on matters involving AI, Web3 and digital assets, technology transactions, and privacy and cybersecurity, among other areas. He is recognized by the legal community as a pioneer and thought leader, writes and speaks extensively on privacy, technology, and intellectual property issues, has been repeatedly selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America for information technology law, and was recently recognized as one of Lawdragon's 100 Leading AI & Legal Tech Advisors.

He presently co-chairs, along with Azish Filabi and Adele Hogan, the AI subcommittee of New York City Bar Association's Task Force on Digital Technologies, which works with the Task Force, conducting research on AI, including drafting publications and analyzing others' content on AI-related issues, and recording podcasts and hosting seminars/webinars regarding technology law and policy. Mr. Levi earned his B.A. from Columbia University and his J.D. from Harvard Law School.

Professor Jason Schultz teaches clinical law at New York University School of Law, instructs on "generative AI and the future of legal practice," and serves as Director of the University's Technology Law and Policy Clinic and Co-Director of its Engelberg Center on Innovation Law and Policy. His clinical projects, research, and writing focus primarily on practical frameworks and policy options to help traditional areas of law such as intellectual property, privacy, consumer protection, and civil rights adapt to new technologies and the challenges they pose. His most recent work centers on the social and legal implications of machine learning, artificial intelligence, and "the Internet of Things," with the latter term referring to the network of devices with sensors, processing ability, software, and other technologies that allow the devices to connect, interact, and exchange data and information.

During the 2016 to 2017 academic year, Professor Schultz was on leave to work at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, where he served as Senior Adviser on Innovation and Intellectual Property to the U.S. Chief Technology Officer. He is co-author, with Aaron Perzanowski, of *The End of Ownership: Personal Property in the Digital Economy*, which argues for retaining consumer property rights in a marketplace that increasingly threatens them.

Prior to joining New York University, Professor Schultz was an Assistant Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Samuelson Law, Technology and Public Policy Clinic at the University of California's Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall). Before joining Boalt Hall, he was a senior staff attorney at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, one of the world's leading digital rights groups. Previously, he practiced intellectual property law at the firm of Fish & Richardson, PC. He also served as a clerk to the Honorable D. Lowell Jensen of the Northern District of California. He is a member of the American Law Institute and a graduate of Duke University and the University of California's Berkeley School of Law.

The appointments are effective immediately.

A roster of the Advisory Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the Courts follows.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE COURTS

Co-Chairs

Hon. Angela G. Iannacci
Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department; Co-Chair, Appellate Division, Second Department Task Force on AI; Member, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Strategic Initiative Jurisdiction Team, National Courts and Sciences Institute

Stuart Levi
Partner, Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP; Co-Chair, New York State Bar Association Task Force on Digital Technologies-AI Subcommittee

Jason Schultz
Professor, NYU Law School; Director, NYU Technology and Law Clinic

Members

Brian Balmes
Deputy Chief of Staff to Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts Hon. Deborah Kaplan

Hon. Tracy Bannister
Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Fourth Department; Member, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Strategic Initiative Jurisdiction Team, National Courts and Sciences Institute

Alvin Bragg
New York County District Attorney

Hon. Fernando Camacho
Suffolk County Supreme Court Acting Justice

Hon. Margaret Chan
New York County Supreme Court Justice (Commercial Division)

Hon. Zainab Chaudhry
Court of Claims Judge; Member, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Strategic Jurisdiction Team, National Courts and Sciences Institute

Diana Colon
Chief of Staff to First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Hon. Norman St. George

Hon. Kathie Davidson
New York State Judicial Institute Dean

Hon. Vito DeStefano
Tenth Judicial District Administrative Judge (Nassau County)

Hon. Craig Doran
Ontario County Supreme Court Justice; Chair, Unified Court System (UCS) Court Modernization Action Committee; Member, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Strategic Jurisdiction Team, National Courts and Sciences Institute

Hon. Patria Frias-Colón
Kings County Supreme Court Justice (Civil Term); Co-Chair, UCS Court Modernization Action Committee

Kristen Gonzalez
New York State Senator (District 59); Chair, Internet and Technology Committee

Sheng Guo
Director, Office of Court Administration's (OCA) Division of Court Modernization

Maura Grossman
Research Professor, University of Waterloo; Principal, Maura Grossman Law, Buffalo, New York; Member, American Bar Association Task Force on Law and Artificial Intelligence

Paul Gupta
Partner, Rimon Law; Co-Chair, New York State Bar Association Technology Committee-Dispute Resolution Section

Hon. Denise Hartman
Court of Claims Judge; Member, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Strategic Initiative Jurisdiction Team, National Courts and Sciences Institute

Jason Hill
Senior Technical Manager, OCA Division of Technology

Hon. Kenneth Holder
Queens County Supreme Court Justice (Criminal Term); Former Member, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Strategic Initiative Jurisdiction Team, National Courts and Sciences Institute

Bruce Jackson
Associate General Counsel and Managing Director of Strategic Partnerships, Microsoft Corporation

Letitia James
New York State Attorney General

Karen Kane
Director of Court Research, OCA Division of Technology and Court Research

Sherry Levin Wallach
Deputy Executive Director, Legal Aid Society of Westchester County and Former President, New York State Bar Association

Hon. Sallie Manzanet-Daniels
Appellate Division, First Department Associate Justice; Member, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Strategic Initiative Jurisdiction Team, National Courts and Sciences Institute

Karl Pflanz
Principal Law Clerk to Chief Administrative Judge Hon. Joseph A. Zayas

Hon. Stan Pritzker
Appellate Division, Third Department Associate Justice; Member, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Strategic Initiative Jurisdiction Team, National Courts and Sciences Institute

Scott Reents
Of Counsel, Cravath Swaine & Moore LLP; Co-Chair, UCS Court Modernization Action Committee

Hon. Richard Rivera
Statewide Coordinating Judge for Family Court Matters

David Scher
Partner, Block O'Toole & Murphy; President, New York State Trial Lawyers Association

Lauren Seiter
Supervising Court Attorney to Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Courts Outside New York City Hon. James P. Murphy

Hon. Toko Serita
Statewide Coordinating Judge for Problem-Solving Courts

William Silverman
Partner, Proskauer Rose LLP; Co-Chair, UCS Court Modernization Action Committee

Christine Sisario
Director, OCA Division of Technology

Michelle Smith
Chief of Staff to Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives Hon. Edwina G. Richardson

Hon. Jeffrey Sunshine
Statewide Coordinating Judge for Matrimonial Matters

Josh Tucker
Partner, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Clyde Vanel
New York State Assembly Member (District 33); Chair, Subcommittee on Internet and New Technology

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