

## **NEWS RELEASE**

New York State Unified Court System

Hon. Joseph A. Zayas Chief Administrative Judge Contact:
Al Baker, Communications Director
Arlene Hackel
(212) 428-2500
publicinformation@nycourts.gov
www.nycourts.gov/press

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## Bronx Native Named Supervising Judge of the County's Criminal Court

NEW YORK CITY—Chief Administrative Judge Zayas and First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George today announced the appointment of lifelong Bronx resident Hon. Yadhira Gonzalez-Taylor as Supervising Judge of Bronx Criminal Court. The appointment was made with the approval of Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson and 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 City Criminal Court Administrative Judge Tamiko Amaker. Judge Gonzalez-Taylor will fill a vacancy left by Hon. Margaret Martin, who will now serve on the Kings County Supreme Court's criminal bench in Brooklyn as an acting Justice of the State Supreme Court.

"As a Bronx native who has devoted her life to public service and civic engagement, Judge Gonzalez-Taylor is an ideal choice to take on the challenges of this pivotal leadership role," said Judges Zayas and St. George. "Her legal acumen, judicial expertise and diverse professional experience, combined with her capacity for innovation and collaboration and her deep-rooted ties to the Bronx community, will be tremendous assets to Bronx Criminal Court and those it serves."

In her new post as Supervising Judge and under the guidance of Judges Amaker and Silvera, Judge Gonzalez-Taylor will oversee the operations and programs of this high-volume court, which arraigns most of the borough's felony cases and handles all aspects of the thousands of misdemeanor cases filed each year in the Bronx.

"The experiences lived during my upbringing in the Bronx have fueled my desire to serve and uplift the community I call home, also driving my lifelong commitment to public service," said Judge Gonzalez-Taylor. "I look forward to working with the judicial leadership, my colleagues on the bench, Borough Chief Clerk William Kalish, court

officers, non-judicial personnel, and our justice system partners to ensure that justice in Bronx Criminal Court is delivered with fairness and integrity."

Judge Gonzalez-Taylor was elected to the New York City Civil Court in November 2022 and subsequently assigned to the Bronx Criminal Court bench. She is a U.S. Army veteran and former Bronx County Assistant District Attorney whose caseload comprised financial crimes, arson, animal cruelty, and government corruption. She later served as an NYPD internal prosecutor and, prior to becoming a judge, was an Administrative Law Hearing Officer for the New York City Department of Education. Judge Gonzalez-Taylor is an adjunct professor at Bronx County's Monroe College and a mentor to aspiring legal professionals and judges from underrepresented communities.

Commending outgoing Supervising Judge Martin, Judges Zayas and St. George added, "We are grateful to Judge Martin for her exemplary leadership and service as Bronx Criminal Court Supervising Judge over the past four years and pleased that Kings County Supreme Court's criminal term will gain from her judicial skills and other fine attributes."



Hon. Yadhira Gonzalez-Taylor