



NEWS RELEASE

**New York State
Unified Court System**

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

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Housing Court Judges Named in Brooklyn and the Bronx

NEW YORK CITY—Chief Administrative Judge Joseph Zayas, in consultation with First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George, today appointed three judges to New York City Civil Court’s high-volume Housing Parts: Judges Madalina Danescu and Rachel Vincent will serve in Brooklyn; and Judge Susan Winograd has been assigned to the Bronx. New York City Housing Court judges are appointed to five-year terms, presiding over cases involving alleged housing violations and disputes between landlords and tenants.

“New York City’s Housing Parts hear thousands of cases each year, grappling with concerns that impact the stability, safety, and quality of life for individuals, families, and neighborhoods throughout the City’s five boroughs,” said Judges Zayas and St. George. “Along with their intimate knowledge of the laws, procedures, and issues relating to landlord-tenant and other housing matters, today’s appointees have each demonstrated the keen judgment, passion for justice, and capacity for innovation to effectually take on their new judicial roles.”

Madalina Danescu is a Romanian native whose experiences and unique perspective as an immigrant spurred her interest in the law and desire to serve persons from historically underrepresented populations. Prior to her appointment, she worked for over five years as an associate court attorney in the Civil Court’s Housing Part in Queens, with her decade-plus legal career largely dedicated to landlord-tenant law.

“I want to thank the judicial leadership for my appointment to the Housing Court bench, said Judge Danescu. “I am both honored and humbled and look forward to serving the people of New York City in this new, exciting role.

Rachel Vincent has been serving as an associate court attorney in Civil Court's Housing Part in the Bronx since 2018 and before that spent over a decade as a legal practitioner, representing landlords in housing matters and advocating for unrepresented tenants as a volunteer attorney. She is the daughter of Haitian immigrants and a proud South Jamaica, Queens native.

"I am grateful for this opportunity and committed to ensuring that every litigant is treated with dignity and respect," said Judge Vincent. "I look forward to joining my colleagues on the New York City Housing Court bench."

Susan Winograd is a veteran of the court system, with 25-plus years of experience as a court attorney in the Civil Court's Housing Part in the Bronx, where her duties included conferencing cases, performing legal research, mediating settlements, and drafting decisions and orders, among other responsibilities. Previously, she was in private practice at a law firm in Queens.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to serve as a New York City Housing Court judge and thankful to the court system's leadership team for entrusting me with this vital judicial position," said Judge Winograd.

Over the past year, measures have been implemented to advance the court system's efforts to address case delays and enhance access to justice in New York City's Housing Parts, including the addition of judgeships and the hiring of new court attorneys and other court staff.

The selected candidates, whose appointments take effect on Thursday, March 13, will fill vacancies left by Judges Norma Jennings and Malaika Scott-McLaughlin, who were elected to the New York City Civil Court; and Judge Kimberley Slade, who has retired from the Housing Court bench.

"We are most appreciative of the dedicated service of these three outgoing Housing Court judges," said Judges Zayas and St. George. "We congratulate Judges Jennings and Scott-McLaughlin on their election to the City's Civil Court bench and wish Judge Slade the very best in all her future pursuits."



Hon. Madalina Danescu





Hon. Rachel Vincent

Hon. Susan Winograd

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