



NEWS RELEASE

**New York State
Unified Court System**

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

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Chief Administrative Judge Names Advisory Group to Address New York City Housing Court Challenges

NEW YORK CITY—Chief Administrative Judge Joseph A. Zayas today announced the formation of the New York City Housing Court Practice and Policy Advisory Committee, a diverse group of judges, attorneys, advocates, and government officials charged with examining systemic challenges affecting the quality of justice in New York City’s high-volume Housing Court. The committee, chaired by New York City Housing Court Supervising Judge Jack Stoller and Bronx Housing Court Judge and Housing Court Judges Association President Christel Garland, will advise court leadership on operational enhancements and policy, legislative, and other reforms aimed at strengthening the Housing Court’s effectiveness, fairness, and accessibility.

The committee brings together a broad range of perspectives — including tenant and landlord advocates, academics, and representatives from New York City and New York State government and court support organizations — alongside judges and non-judicial court personnel. Its mandate is to identify and closely study persistent issues affecting the administration of justice across Housing Court in all five boroughs.

To fulfill this mission, the Advisory Committee will:

- Recommend procedural and operational improvements to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Housing Court
- Review and propose changes to statutes, court rules, administrative practices, and related policies within the Court’s jurisdiction
- Provide informed feedback on pending legislation and policy initiatives affecting housing law and practice in New York City

The committee will offer ongoing analysis, consultation, and policy guidance, reporting regularly to the court leadership on its activities and progress.

“The New York City Housing Court hears thousands of cases each year involving consequential issues that affect the stability, safety, and well-being of individuals, families, and entire communities across the City’s five boroughs,” said Chief Administrative Judge Zayas. “I look forward to the guidance of this newly established assemblage of experts, whose thoughtful and informed support will help ensure the Court’s optimal functioning in fulfilling its crucial mission.”

“The laws, policies, and conditions affecting housing in New York City are complex and continuously evolving,” said First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George. “I am eager to work with Judges Stoller and Garland and the Advisory Committee members as we explore procedural and other innovations to best meet the justice needs of the individuals and families — many among our most vulnerable New Yorkers — who seek redress in New York City Housing Court.”

A membership roster of the New York City Housing Court Practice and Policy Advisory Committee is attached.