



## ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Implementation of the State Budget on the Judiciary

PURPOSE: To examine the impact of the 2017-2018 enacted state budget on the judiciary and the administration of justice in New York.

#### **New York City**

Friday, December 1, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Assembly Hearing Room 1923, 19th Floor  
250 Broadway, New York, New York

### **ORAL TESTIMONY BY INVITATION ONLY**

The New York State courts are established and administered as an independent branch of government pursuant to Article VI of the State Constitution. The cost of operating the courts (excluding town and village courts) is borne by the state pursuant to the Unified Court Budget Act. The New York State Judiciary carries out its mission through 11 different trial courts (courts of original jurisdiction), its intermediate appellate courts and its highest court, the Court of Appeals.

The Judiciary's all funds appropriations in the 2017-18 enacted state budget is \$2.98 billion, which is an increase of \$98.7 million, or 3.43 percent, from the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2016-17 level. The proposed budget includes a total of \$100 million to support the recommendations of an Office of Court Administration taskforce to expand civil legal services. The Judiciary's budget also includes a \$37.3 million increase in personal service over the SFY 2016-17 level to support an additional 200 nonjudicial positions, mandatory and negotiated salary increases for nonjudicial employees, and a salary increase for State Supreme Court Judges as recommended by the Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation.

This hearing will provide a synopsis of the current state of the Judiciary with an emphasis on court backlogs, constraints on court resources, and judicial vacancies. It will examine, generally, the Judiciary's anticipated fiscal needs for the 2018-2019 SFY. The hearing will also examine the State's ability to provide access to justice to low income New Yorkers through its funding of civil legal services.

**Oral testimony will be accepted by invitation only** and limited to **five (5)** minutes' duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committees will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as early as possible.

**Twenty (20)** copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committees would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

**Jeffrey Dinowitz**  
**Member of Assembly**  
**Chair**  
**Committee on Judiciary**

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**PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM**

**ORAL TESTIMONY BY INVITATION ONLY**

Persons invited to present testimony at the public hearing on the implementation of the state budget on the judiciary are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and mail, email or fax it to:

**Justin Birzon  
Assembly Committee on Judiciary  
Room 513, Capitol  
Albany, New York 12248  
Email: BirzonJ@nyassembly.gov  
Phone: 518-455-4313  
Fax: 518-455-7087**

I have been invited to the public hearing on the implementation of the state budget on the judiciary on December 1, 2017, and plan to present testimony. My testimony will be limited to five (5) minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide twenty (20) copies of my prepared testimony.

I plan to attend and observe the public hearing on the implementation of the state budget on the judiciary on December 1, 2017.

I will address my remarks to the following subjects:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I do not plan to attend the above hearing.

I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.

I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.

I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:**

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\_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_