

New York State Bar Association

One Elk Street, Albany, New York 12207 • 518/463-3200 • <http://www.nysba.org>



DAVID M. SCHRAVER

President, New York State Bar Association

Nixon Peabody LLP
1300 Clinton Square
Rochester, NY 14604
585/263-1341
FAX 585/263-1600
dschraver@nixonpeabody.com

Below is text of a letter that State Bar President David M. Schraver sent to legislative leaders.

May 27, 2014

Re: New Family Court Judgeships

I am writing with regard to the New York State Bar Association's highest priority for this legislative session – authorization of 20 new Family Court judgeships, for which funding was included in the recently-enacted Judiciary Budget.

As you know, May 29th is the first day for circulating designating petitions for this year's election for state offices, including Family Court judgeships outside New York City. In order to have those offices filled by January 2015, candidates must file their petitions by July 10th. Therefore, with each passing day, there is less time for qualified candidates to obtain a position on the ballot.

I know that you appreciate the need for creating these judgeships in order to begin addressing the delays in these courts and their devastating impact on children across the state.

You and your colleagues have exhibited strong commitment to addressing the conditions in Family Court. I urge you to take necessary steps to pass the authorization legislation promptly.

Thank you for your attention to this very important issue.

Respectfully,

David M. Schraver