

## Biography - Hon. Ellen M. Yacknin

### Personal Statement

- As a City Court Judge since 2003, the Hon. Ellen M. Yacknin has presided over thousands of civil and criminal cases.

Because of their legal significance, over 35 of her decisions are published. Judge Yacknin routinely mentor student law clerks and serves on Monroe County's Public Sector Mental Health Committee. She regularly volunteers with Rochester's Teen Court and the Trial Moot Court programs of the Boy Scouts Explorers and Cornell Law School.

Before taking the bench, Judge Yacknin was Senior Attorney at Rochester's Greater Upstate Law Project, where she litigated many precedent-setting complex class actions. In recognition of her work, she received the New York State Bar Association's Haywood Burns Award for Civil Rights and Justice, the New York Children's Defense Fund Award for Outstanding Service to Children, and Trial Lawyer of the Year Finalist of the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice Foundation.

Previously, she was Managing Attorney of Prisoners Legal Services in Buffalo, Immigration Law Clinic Instructor at SUNY at Buffalo Law School, Law Clerk to Federal Chief Judge John Curtin in Buffalo, and Welfare Attorney at Pennsylvania Legal Services Center. She is a Past President of AIDS Community Health Center, Inc. in Rochester.