

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2021

Contact: Elise L. Cassar, President
(716) 796-9499
president@wbasnywny.org

Women's Bar Association Announces Judicial Candidate Ratings

The Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York announces its ratings for this year's candidates for New York State Supreme Court, Erie County Family Court, Buffalo City Court and Niagara Falls City Court.

The Women's Bar Association uses a four-level overall rating system of Outstanding, Highly Qualified, Qualified and Not Recommended. The rating is based upon a personal interview with the candidate, evaluation of writing samples submitted by the candidate, and a survey of our membership as to their professional experience with the candidate. As part of the overall rating, judicial candidates were rated Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair and Poor in the areas of Judicial Temperament, Legal Reasoning Ability, Experience for the Position Sought and Commitment to Women's Issues and Community Issues.

NEW YORK STATE SUPREME COURT CANDIDATES

Hon. Frank Caruso

Judicial Temperament
Legal Reasoning Ability
Experience for the Position Sought
Commitment to Women's Issues and Community Issues

Outstanding

Excellent
Excellent
Excellent
Excellent

Grace M. Hanlon, Esq.

Judicial Temperament
Legal Reasoning Ability
Experience for the Position Sought
Commitment to Women's Issues and Community Issues

Highly Qualified

Excellent
Very Good
Very Good
Excellent

John B. Licata, Esq.

Judicial Temperament
Legal Reasoning Ability
Experience for the Position Sought
Commitment to Women's Issues and Community Issues

Qualified

Good
Very Good
Good
Good

ERIE COUNTY FAMILY COURT CANDIDATES

Hon. Sharon M. LoVallo

Judicial Temperament
Legal Reasoning Ability
Experience for the Position Sought
Commitment to Women's Issues and Community Issues

Outstanding

Excellent
Very Good
Excellent
Excellent

BUFFALO CITY COURT CANDIDATES

Hon. Phillip Dabney, Jr.	Highly Qualified
Judicial Temperament	Very Good
Legal Reasoning Ability	Very Good
Experience for the Position Sought	Very Good
Commitment to Women’s Issues and Community Issues	Very Good

Joseph T. Jarzembek, Esq.	Declined to Be Rated
----------------------------------	-----------------------------

Joel C. Moore, Esq.	Not Recommended
Judicial Temperament	Fair
Legal Reasoning Ability	Good
Experience for the Position Sought	Fair
Commitment to Women’s Issues and Community Issues	Fair

Rebecca L. Town, Esq.	Highly Qualified
Judicial Temperament	Very Good
Legal Reasoning Ability	Very Good
Experience for the Position Sought	Very Good
Commitment to Women’s Issues and Community Issues	Excellent

Hon. Diane Y. Wray	Qualified
Judicial Temperament	Good
Legal Reasoning Ability	Very Good
Experience for the Position Sought	Very Good
Commitment to Women’s Issues and Community Issues	Good

NIAGARA FALLS CITY COURT CANDIDATES

Dominic Saraceno, Esq.	Highly Qualified
Judicial Temperament	Very Good
Legal Reasoning Ability	Very Good
Experience for the Position Sought	Very Good
Commitment to Women’s Issues and Community Issues	Good

The ratings include candidates who announced their candidacy prior to May 1, 2021. Ratings for candidates who announced after May 1, 2021 may be included in a subsequent press release.

###