

An Important Message from the Onondaga County Surrogate's Court

by Ellen S. Weinstein, Esq.

Despite our court being understaffed for years, those serving in the Onondaga County Surrogate's Court have continually provided exemplary service to the public and the Bar. As Chief Clerk of the Onondaga County Surrogate's Court, I am most proud of the high quality of the work produced by our courteous, efficient staff.

It is also no secret however, that the New York State Court system is operating under great strain; and our Court cannot help but be affected by this stress and strain. Due to circumstances beyond our control, we find that our Court will be even more short-staffed over the course of the next six months or so, and, given the present budgetary constraints and the hard freeze on hiring, there is no relief in sight. This does not mean the quality of our work will change. We will continue to provide quality, courteous service but the time frame in which we will be able to turn around that quality work product will take longer. Clerks may not always be available to intake your papers and, there may be times when the front window will be closed except for drop off. Hard times call for difficult measures but we want to assure you that we will continue to do the best we can under the circumstances. We appreciate your patience and understanding. Thank you.