

News Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 9, 2015 NEWS RELEASE CONTACT: Jean Marie Westlake, Esq. Telephone: (315) 479-9000

## Tri-County Bars Judicial Screening Committee For the New York State Court of Appeals Chief Judge Vacancy

## **Press Release**

The Tri-County Bars Judicial Screening Committee, which is compromised of selected members from the Erie County Bar Association, Monroe County Bar Association and the Onondaga County Bar Association, has sent a letter to Governor Andrew Cuomo with the Committee's ratings for seven nominees under consideration for Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals. The vacancy was created due to retirement of Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman.

The committee conducted personal interviews with each candidate on November 6, 2015 on the campus of SUNY Albany. Together with an evaluation of each candidate's background, written submissions, judicial temperament, legal ability and experience, legal writing, character and fitness, work ethic and impartiality, the Committee rated the nominees as follows:

Stephen P. Younger, Esq.	Highly Qualified
Hon. Janet DiFiore	Highly Qualified
Rowan D. Wilson, Esq.	Highly Qualified
Hon. A. Gail Prudenti	Highly Qualified
Michael Garcia, Esq.	Highly Qualified
Carey Dunne, Esq.	Highly Qualified
Caitlin Halligan, Esq.	Qualified