



PO Box 1728 Schenectady NY 12301-1728 ▪ info@schenectadycountybar.org ▪ 518-393-4115

November 14, 2023

Hon. Eugene M. Fahey, Chair
NYS Commission on Legislative,
Judicial and Executive Compensation
64 Beaver Street Box 454
New York, NY 10004

Dear Judge Fahey,

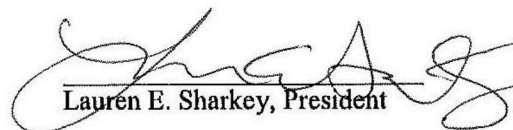
The Schenectady County Bar Association (SCBA) urges the 2023 Quadrennial Salary Commission to return Supreme Court Justices to pay parity with federal district court judges, consistent with the 2011 and 2015 commission recommendations. Judges have not had a pay raise since receiving a 1.39% increase in April of 2019.

Additionally, it should be noted that the duties of Supreme Court Justices have expanded. They are now required to hear applications from law enforcement and others, which often occur in the evenings and on weekends, to issue protective orders under New York State's Red Flag Law (also known as the Extreme Risk Protection Order Law) (Executive Order of Governor Hochul signed on June 6, 2022), requesting the removal of guns from individuals who pose a substantial threat of harm to themselves or others. Also, Supreme Court Justices continue to remain on-call on all polling days for early voting, even on weekends and on Election Day.

The Judges in our County are committed to the public they serve and should be treated fairly in compensation as has been reflected in the pay increases of our elected state legislators and governor.

Respectfully,

Schenectady County Bar Association


Lauren E. Sharkey, President