

Supreme Court
of the
State of New York



JOHN ZOLL
ACTING SUPREME COURT JUSTICE
CRIMINAL TERM, QUEENS COUNTY

CHAMBERS
125-01 QUEENS BLVD.
KEW GARDENS, N.Y. 11415

Hon. Eugene Fahey[Ret.]
Chair, New York State Salary Commission
64 Beaver St.
Box 454
New York, NY 10004

October 13, 2023

PERSONAL AND UNOFFICIAL

Greetings Judge Fahey. My name is John Zoll. I am an Acting Supreme Court Justice, presiding in Queens County Supreme Court, Criminal Term. I am also the President of the Association of New York City Criminal Court Judges. Along with my fellow officers Laura Ward, Mary Bejarano, and Germaine Auguste, our Association consists of more than 120 judges who preside over criminal matters in New York City Criminal Court and Supreme Courts, Criminal Term. The overwhelming number of judges in our Association are appointed by the Mayor of New York City. Some judges are elected as Civil Court judges and subsequently assigned to the New York City Criminal Court. In addition, many of our judges are appointed by the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge of New York City to serve as Acting Supreme Court Justices on a year to year basis.

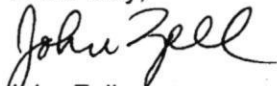
First, let me thank the Commission for the important work that it is doing concerning judicial salary review. Second, we very much support and agree with the position of the Office of Court Administration and the comments made by Chief Administrative Judge, Joseph Zayas, and we support a statewide increase in salary compensation for all New York Judges on par with the Federal Judiciary.

We respectfully make one additional observation on behalf of the members of our Association who are Criminal Court Judges and presently earn a salary of \$196,200. The actual dollar salary difference between a Supreme Court Judge and a Criminal Court Judge in New York City is presently \$14,700. In addition to recommending an increase of Supreme Court Judges to parity with the Federal Judiciary, \$232,600, we respectfully ask the Commission to discuss the possibility of maintaining the dollar difference of \$14,700 between Supreme Court Judges and Criminal Court Judges, which is 93.68%. The Judges of the New York City Criminal Court work as hard as any judges in the State. These judges preside over All-Purpose Parts with calendars usually approaching 100 plus cases per day; are often asked to do the most with the least by way of resources and staff; and they work, on average, seven weeks (49 shifts) of

night court per year. Presently, the percentage difference between the two salaries is 93%. When the first increase was implemented back in 2011, 93% equaled \$11,100. In 2015, 93% was \$14,700. Should the Commission recommend parity with the Federal Judiciary, 93% will equal \$16,282 difference in dollars. Moreover, none of this considers the lack of any cost of living adjustments.

Again, we appreciate the work the Commission is doing; and we respectfully ask that you discuss this one additional request.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Zoll". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "Z" and "l".

John Zoll
President, CCJA of NYC