



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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**New York State  
Unified Court System**

**Hon. Lawrence K. Marks  
Chief Administrative Judge**

**Contact:  
Lucian Chalfen, Public Information Director  
Arlene Hackel, Deputy Director  
(212) 428-2500**

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**Date: November 28, 2017**

### **Appointments Made to Appellate Term, First Judicial Department**

**New York** – Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence K. Marks today designated Hon. Douglas E. McKeon as Presiding Justice of the Appellate Term of the Supreme Court, First Judicial Department; and Hon. Matthew F. Cooper as an Associate Justice on that Court, which encompasses Manhattan and the Bronx, and hears appeals of decisions in cases originating in New York City Civil Court and New York City Criminal Court. The appointments were made in consultation with Hon. Rolando T. Acosta, Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, First Judicial Department.

As Presiding Justice, Justice McKeon will replace Hon. Richard B. Lowe III, who was appointed to the Appellate Term in 2011 and is retiring from the bench following a distinguished, 30-plus year judicial career in the New York Courts. Justice Cooper will be filling a vacancy created by the retirement of Hon. Martin Schoenfeld, who joined the Appellate Term in 2002 and has served on the New York State bench since 1985.

“Justices McKeon and Cooper are widely respected judges whose experience, scholarship, integrity and commitment to the fair administration of justice will greatly benefit this prestigious Court and those it serves,” said Chief Administrative Judge Marks.

Justice McKeon has most recently served as Bronx County’s Administrative Judge for Civil Matters and Coordinating Judge of the New York State Medical Malpractice Program, an inventive court approach to medical malpractice matters he helped pioneer to better manage these highly complex cases. He joined the court system in 1988, upon his election to New York City Civil Court, and was elected to the State Supreme Court in 1990, then re-elected in 2004. From 2006 to 2010, he was Presiding Justice of the Appellate Term, First Judicial Department, with the Court enhancing its case management under his leadership. He began his career as a

trial and appellate lawyer and held several public service positions prior to his ascension to the bench. A Bronx native, he is a graduate of Lehman College and New York Law School.

Justice Cooper has presided over a Matrimonial Part in State Supreme Court, New York County. His judicial career began in New York City Civil Court, to which he was elected in 2001. He was designated an acting Supreme Court Justice in 2008 and elected to the State Supreme Court bench in 2011. Before becoming a judge, he served as Director and Chief Counsel of the Teamsters Local 237 Legal Services Plan, a general practice law office for municipal employees and retirees. He is an alumnus of Hobart College and Antioch School of Law.

The appointments are effective January 1, 2018.

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