



PRESS RELEASE

**New York State
Unified Court System**

**Contact:
David Bookstaver
Communications Director
Arlene Hackel, Deputy Director
(212) 428-2500**

**Hon. Ann Pfau
Chief Administrative Judge**

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New Administrative Judge of Suffolk County Courts Named

NEW YORK – Chief Administrative Judge Ann Pfau today announced the appointment of Hon. C. Randall Hinrichs as Administrative Judge of the Suffolk County Courts. The appointment, effective March 14, 2011, was made with the approval of Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman and in consultation with Presiding Justice A. Gail Prudenti of the Appellate Division, Second Department. Judge Hinrichs replaces Hon. H. Patrick Leis III, who is stepping down as Administrative Judge.

In making the appointment Judge Pfau said, “Judge Hinrichs is a highly regarded member of the Long Island legal community with an impeccable reputation as an attorney and judge who brings to his new role energy, hard work and commitment. I am confident that his leadership will be a tremendous asset to the judges and staff in the Suffolk County Courts and the public they serve. I am pleased that Judge Hinrichs has accepted this critical judicial assignment, and I look forward to working with him in his new capacity.”

Judge Hinrichs was first elected to the Suffolk County bench in 2002 as a County Court judge. He was appointed supervising judge of the County Court in 2008, presiding over a trial part including a trial assignment part calendar, and elected to the Suffolk County Supreme Court in 2010. He also served as an acting Family Court judge early in his judicial career. A Long Island native, Judge Hinrichs received his Juris Doctor degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Judge Pfau added, “I want to express my enormous appreciation to Judge Leis for his service to the Suffolk County Courts as Administrative Judge over the past seven years and for his many contributions to the court system. I am grateful that Judge Leis will continue service to the citizens of Suffolk County as a judge, focusing his talents on guardianship work, which is so important. Suffolk County will benefit from Judge Leis’ extensive experience and empathetic work with families.”