



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**New York State  
Unified Court System**

**Hon. Alan D. Oshrin  
District Administrative Judge,  
Tenth Judicial District (Suffolk Co.)**

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### **Supreme Court Commercial Division Opens In Suffolk County**

**CENTRAL ISLIP, NY** – Suffolk County’s District Administrative Judge, Alan D. Oshrin, is pleased to announce that Suffolk County has opened a new specialized Commercial Division in Supreme Court. The formal dedication of this specialized part will take place at a special ceremony hosted by the New York State Unified Court System, the Suffolk County Bar Association and the Judicial and Commercial and Federal Litigation Sections of the New York State Bar Association. The ceremony will be held on October 2, 2002, at 10:30 a.m., at the Suffolk County Bar Association located at 560 Wheeler Road, Hauppauge, New York and will be presided over by Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye. The press is invited to attend.

According to Justice Oshrin, “The support of Chief Judge Kaye and Chief Administrative Judge Jonathan Lippman has proved to be invaluable in the establishment of this specialized division within our Supreme Court. In addition, I am grateful for the continued and unwavering support of my predecessor, Presiding Justice A. Gail Prudenti, who during her tenure as District Administrative Judge first recognized the need for a specialized Commercial Part in Suffolk County and was instrumental in establishing the framework for its creation. It is hoped that this dedicated Commercial Division will be able to appropriately address the needs of our residents and, in

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particular, the business community at large.”

Justice Elizabeth H. Emerson will preside over the Commercial Division in Suffolk County which handles complex commercial litigation in which a party seeks at least \$25,000 in compensatory damages. For purposes of assignment to this division, cases will be evaluated in accordance with the standards set forth in the proposed “Guidelines for the Assignment of Cases to the Commercial Parts,” which will be available through the Supreme Court Clerk’s Office and published in the Commercial Division Rules.

The Commercial Divisions were first introduced by Chief Judge Kaye in New York County in 1995 and are a highly successful and well regarded innovation of the New York State court system. Suffolk County becomes the seventh jurisdiction within the State of New York to establish such a division, joining New York, Monroe, Erie, Westchester, Nassau and Albany Counties.

According to Chief Judge Kaye, “The Commercial Divisions were created, in part, because New York is recognized as one of the world’s leading commercial jurisdictions. In an effort to be responsive to the needs of our communities, the New York State court system needed to provide a modern and efficient response to the needs of litigants in this specialized and complex area of practice. I believe Suffolk County, with its ever increasing corporate base, is an appropriate location for the establishment of this highly specialized part.”

Justice Oshrin observed, “I am very happy that we have been able to establish a Commercial Division, anchored in the very capable hands of Justice Emerson, within our Supreme Court in Suffolk County. I very much appreciate the professional support of the Suffolk County Bar Association during the process of developing this very important part, which I believe will provide for the fair and efficient administration of justice in this specialized area of litigation.”

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