



HONORABLE JUDITH S. KAYE

Career Public Service Award

Judith S. Kaye is Of Counsel to the Litigation Group at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. Before joining the firm, she served as Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals for 15 years until her retirement in 2008. She first was appointed to the Court in 1983 as an Associate Judge.

During Chief Judge Kaye's long and distinguished career in public service she gained a national reputation for both her groundbreaking decisions and her innovative reforms of the New York court system. She wrote notable decisions on adoption rights for gay couples and the death penalty. Chief Judge Kaye spearheaded numerous initiatives to make the court system more efficient and responsive to the needs of all New Yorkers, which include: the development of problem-solving courts which have resulted in more effective outcomes for victims of domestic violence, individuals with substance abuse and mental health problems; the "Adoption Now" program which produced faster adoptions and more streamlined procedures for children in foster care and their families; and the creation of the Commercial Division, which has eased the court process for commercial claims and helped create a better climate for business in New York.

Chief Judge Kaye serves as Chair of the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children and Founding Member and Honorary President of Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert. She has served as Co-Chair of the Commission on the American Jury of the American Bar Association (2004-05), as President of the Conference of Chief Justices and Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Center for State Courts (2002-03).

2009



DANIEL R. ALONSO

John J. McCloy Memorial Award

Daniel R. Alonso is a partner in the Litigation Department of Kaye Scholer LLP. His practice is focused on internal investigations, white-collar defense, civil litigation, and regulatory enforcement. Previously, he was Chief of the Criminal Division in the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York, and from 1990 to 1995, he served as an Assistant District Attorney in the New York County District Attorney's Office. He also served as a law clerk to Judge Joseph W. Bellacosa of the New York Court of Appeals.

Mr. Alonso has a longstanding commitment to improving the administration of justice. He was a member of the New York City Bar Association's Judicial Selection Task Force in 2003, and later became Chair of the New York Hispanic Bar Task Force on Judicial Selection. The latter body issued a report in early 2007 recommending that New York's existing judicial nominating convention system for the selection of Supreme Court Justices be extensively reformed by opening up the convention system and, in the long term, establishing a commission-based appointment system. His work in judicial reform and judicial selection also includes service as a member of the New York State Bar Association's Committee to Review Judicial Nominations, a Director of the Fund for Modern Courts, and a member of the Advisory Group to the New York State-Federal Judicial Council.

Mr. Alonso also currently serves as the Chair of the City Bar's Council on Criminal Justice and is a gubernatorial appointee to the New York State Commission on Public Integrity.

2009