

New York State-Federal Judicial Council and the Second Circuit Judicial Council

The Interplay Between State and Federal Law: Pitfalls to Avoid

June 15, 2023 (Virtual)
4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Moderated by
The Honorable James M. Wicks
United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of New York

SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES



Anthony Cannataro, Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, was born in New Jersey in July 1965. On May 25, 2021, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo nominated him to the Court of Appeals, and the New York State Senate confirmed his appointment on June 8, 2021.

Judge Cannataro began his legal career in 1996 as an Assistant Corporation Counsel with the New York City Law Department. From 2000-2003, he served as Law Clerk to Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick, Associate Judge of the New York Court of Appeals. He then served as Law Clerk to Hon. Lottie E. Wilkins in Supreme Court, New York County from 2003-2011. In 2011, he was elected Judge of the Civil Court of the City of New York, receiving assignments to the Kings County Family Court and the Bronx County Civil Court, until his appointment in 2016 as Supervising Judge of the New York County Civil Court. In 2017, he was elected Justice of the Supreme Court for the First Judicial District. Upon taking office as a Supreme Court Justice in January 2018, he was concurrently appointed Citywide Administrative Judge for the New York City Civil Court.



Mike Langan is a career Law Clerk for the Hon. Glenn T. Suddaby, United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York. After law school, Mike practiced law in Washington, D.C., at the law firm of Collier Shannon Rill & Scott, and then at Piper Rudnick (now DLA Piper). Returning to his Syracuse roots, Mike worked at Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC. In 2004, he became the career law clerk to Judge Suddaby. Mike has also authored published novels and short stories, has taught literature and writing courses at George Mason University, and has lectured at many continuing legal education courses on state and federal court practice and procedure.



Justice Andrea Masley was elected as a Justice to the New York State Supreme Court in 2016 and was then quickly assigned to the Commercial Division in 2017. She was elected to a ten-year term in the New York City Civil Court in 2007 and assigned to Family Court from 2008 to 2010. Prior to her election to the New York City Civil Court, Judge Masley was the Principal Court Attorney for Justice Charles Edward Ramos, in the Commercial Division of the New York State Supreme Court, New York County, and for Judge Louise Gans, Acting New York State Supreme Court Judge, New York County. Before her public service, Judge Masley was a litigation associate at the firm of Dechert Price & Rhoads until 1995.



Loretta A. Preska is a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York. Following law school, Judge Preska worked at the law firms of Cahill Gordon & Reindel and Hertzog, Calamari & Gleason (now Winston & Strawn). President George H. W. Bush appointed her to the district court in 1992. She served as Chief Judge of the court for a seven-year term from 2009 to 2016, taking senior status in 2017.



Richard C. Wesley is a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. At the time of his appointment in 2003, he was an Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals. Judge Wesley engaged in the private practice of law from 1975 until 1986. During three years of that period, 1979 until 1982, he also served as assistant counsel and chief legislative aide to Assembly Minority Leader James L. Emery. In 1982, Judge Wesley was elected to the Assembly representing Livingston, Allegany and Ontario Counties. In 1986, Judge Wesley was elected to the New York Supreme Court from the Seventh Judicial District. He served as Supervising Judge of that district's criminal courts from 1991 to 1994. In 1994 he was appointed by Governor Mario Cuomo to the Supreme Court Appellate Division, Fourth Department. In 1997, he was appointed Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals by Governor George Pataki, a position he held until joining the Federal judiciary.



James M. Wicks was appointed as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of New York on April 26, 2021. Prior to his appointment, Judge Wicks spent over 25 years at Farrell Fritz, P.C. in New York, where he was a Partner, served on the Management Committee and later as the firm's first General Counsel. Judge Wicks' practice concentrated in business and commercial litigation, as well as attorney ethics and professionalism issues. Prior to Farrell Fritz, he was an associate with White & Case. While in private practice, Judge Wicks also served as a Receiver and Special Master in various matters, as well as a court-appointed mediator in appellate matters. Judge Wicks is an Adjunct Professor at St. John's University School of Law since 2005, teaching pretrial advocacy and deposition classes.