

## **Karen Schoenberg—Richmond County District Attorney’s Office**

Karen Schoenberg joined the Richmond County District Attorney’s office in 1981 as an ADA serving in the Criminal Court Bureau where she prosecuted misdemeanor crimes, and she was among the earliest female prosecutors appointed in Richmond County. Ms. Schoenberg served as a Senior Assistant District Attorney in the Supreme Court Bureau, prosecuting high-level felony cases, and was the first-ever Deputy Bureau Chief of the Criminal Court Bureau, where until 1998 she was a mentor to many young attorneys who were beginning their careers as prosecutors.

In 1998, Ms. Schoenberg was promoted to the position of Deputy Chief of the Supreme Court Bureau and Chief of the Youth Violence and Gang Unit, where her responsibilities included the supervision of unit prosecutors in the investigation and prosecution of gang members; the screening and assignment of juvenile offender cases; and serving as a member of the Richmond County School Safety Task Force and the Eastern District Gun Violence Task Force. As head of the Truancy Unit, Ms. Schoenberg also spearheaded the implementation of the Truancy Reduction Alliance to Contact Kids (TRACK) program on Staten Island, which is a collaborative effort between law enforcement, educators, and social service programs to identify truant students and return them to a stable learning environment.

Ms. Schoenberg presently is a Special Assistant District Attorney and her responsibilities include the development and implementation of office-wide asset forfeiture policies and procedures; operation of the Staten Island Treatment Court; and increased planning and monitoring of grant programs and reports. Additionally, Ms. Schoenberg worked towards the establishment of this borough’s Youth Court, a program of former Chief Judge Judith Kaye which was the first of its kind in New York City.

For her successful record as an innovative prosecutor and administrator, it is an honor for me to present Karen Schoenberg with the Dewey Medal.