

BARRY M. KAMINS PRESIDENT Phone: (212) 382-6700 Fax: (212) 768-8116 bkamins@nycbar.org

May 21, 2008

Hon. Robert M. Morgenthau District Attorney, New York County One Hogan Place New York, NY 10013

Dear District Attorney Morgenthau:

On behalf of the Criminal Justice Operations Committee of the New York City Bar Association, we write this letter to express our support for New York City's upcoming e-arraignment program, which will, when brought to fruition, help all five boroughs in New York City meet the important 24 hour arraignment goals set forth in *People ex rel. Maxian* v. *Brown*, 164 A.D.2d 56 (1<sup>st</sup> Dept. 1990), aff'd, 77 N.Y.2d 422 (1991) by streamlining and automating the arrest-to-arraignment process and creating a comprehensive timestamp monitoring tool that will track the progress of the arraignment process from agency to agency. We strongly believe that with your cooperation, the e-arraignment program, which is currently under development and will shortly be piloted in the Bronx and Manhattan, will increase the transparency and accountability of arraignments on a wide-scale basis and add efficiency to the entire process.

As you may know, the e-arraignments concept builds on the simple and proven idea that technology and automation save time. The program as presently conceived will automate the paperwork that comes into the New York Police Department Breakdown Room, with the goal of reducing the time that it would otherwise take to print out and gather these documents separately. Next, e-arraignments will automate the Court Docketing and Initialization process. E-arraignments will also ultimately provide the capacity for electronic data sharing so that the District Attorneys' Offices, CJA Administration and OCA Crims all receive pertinent arraignment information electronically.

Another important aspect of e-arraignments will be its comprehensive timestamp reporting system, which creates timestamps for every phase of the arraignment process. The timestamps will, we believe, prove to be an innovative method to determine which aspects of the arraignment process are prone to backlog and inefficiency and need to be improved. The timestamps are one way of ensuring agency accountability for each agency's individual role in the arrest-to-arraignment process.

We hope that all criminal justice agencies, including the NYPD, District Attorneys' Offices, defense bar and the courts, recognize the importance of this program and work together to make e-arraignments a success.

Sincerely,



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May 21, 2008

Hon. Charles J. Hynes District Attorney, Kings County Renassance Plaza, 350 Jay Street Brooklyn, NY 11201

Dear Joe:

On behalf of the Criminal Justice Operations Committee of the New York City Bar Association, we write this letter to express our support for New York City's upcoming e-arraignment program, which will, when brought to fruition, help all five boroughs in New York City meet the important 24 hour arraignment goals set forth in *People ex rel. Maxian* v. *Brown*, 164 A.D.2d 56 (1st Dept. 1990), aff'd, 77 N.Y.2d 422 (1991) by streamlining and automating the arrest-to-arraignment process and creating a comprehensive timestamp monitoring tool that will track the progress of the arraignment process from agency to agency. We strongly believe that with your cooperation, the e-arraignment program, which is currently under development and will shortly be piloted in the Bronx and Manhattan, will increase the transparency and accountability of arraignments on a wide-scale basis and add efficiency to the entire process.

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May 21, 2008

Hon. Richard A. Brown District Attorney, Queens County 125-01 Queens Boulevard Kew Gardens, NY 11415

Dear District Attorney Brown:

On behalf of the Criminal Justice Operations Committee of the New York City Bar Association, we write this letter to express our support for New York City's upcoming e-arraignment program, which will, when brought to fruition, help all five boroughs in New York City meet the important 24 hour arraignment goals set forth in *People ex rel. Maxian* v. *Brown*, 164 A.D.2d 56 (1<sup>st</sup> Dept. 1990), aff'd, 77 N.Y.2d 422 (1991) by streamlining and automating the arrest-to-arraignment process and creating a comprehensive timestamp monitoring tool that will track the progress of the arraignment process from agency to agency. We strongly believe that with your cooperation, the e-arraignment program, which is currently under development and will shortly be piloted in the Bronx and Manhattan, will increase the transparency and accountability of arraignments on a wide-scale basis and add efficiency to the entire process.

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May 21, 2008

Hon. Robert T. Johnson District Attorney, Bronx County 198 East 161st Street Bronx, NY 10451

Dear District Attorney Johnson:

On behalf of the Criminal Justice Operations Committee of the New York City Bar Association, we write this letter to express our support for New York City's upcoming e-arraignment program, which will, when brought to fruition, help all five boroughs in New York City meet the important 24 hour arraignment goals set forth in *People ex rel. Maxian* v. *Brown*, 164 A.D.2d 56 (1st Dept. 1990), aff'd, 77 N.Y.2d 422 (1991) by streamlining and automating the arrest-to-arraignment process and creating a comprehensive timestamp monitoring tool that will track the progress of the arraignment process from agency to agency. We strongly believe that with your cooperation, the e-arraignment program, which is currently under development and will shortly be piloted in the Bronx and Manhattan, will increase the transparency and accountability of arraignments on a wide-scale basis and add efficiency to the entire process.

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**Barry Kamins** 

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PRESIDENT

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May 21, 2008

Hon. Daniel M. Donovan, Jr. District Attorney, Richmond County 130 Stuyvesant Place Staten Island, NY 10301

Dear District Attorney Donovan:

On behalf of the Criminal Justice Operations Committee of the New York City Bar Association, we write this letter to express our support for New York City's upcoming e-arraignment program, which will, when brought to fruition, help all five boroughs in New York City meet the important 24 hour arraignment goals set forth in *People ex rel. Maxian* v. *Brown*, 164 A.D.2d 56 (1<sup>st</sup> Dept. 1990), aff'd, 77 N.Y.2d 422 (1991) by streamlining and automating the arrest-to-arraignment process and creating a comprehensive timestamp monitoring tool that will track the progress of the arraignment process from agency to agency. We strongly believe that with your cooperation, the e-arraignment program, which is currently under development and will shortly be piloted in the Bronx and Manhattan, will increase the transparency and accountability of arraignments on a wide-scale basis and add efficiency to the entire process.

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May 21, 2008

Hon. Ann Pfau NYS Office of Court Administration 25 Beaver Street New York, NY 10004-2319

Dear Judge Pfau:

On behalf of the Criminal Justice Operations Committee of the New York City Bar Association, we write this letter to express our support for New York City's upcoming e-arraignment program, which will, when brought to fruition, help all five boroughs in New York City meet the important 24 hour arraignment goals set forth in *People ex rel. Maxian* v. *Brown*, 164 A.D.2d 56 (1<sup>st</sup> Dept. 1990), aff'd, 77 N.Y.2d 422 (1991) by streamlining and automating the arrest-to-arraignment process and creating a comprehensive timestamp monitoring tool that will track the progress of the arraignment process from agency to agency. We strongly believe that with your cooperation, the e-arraignment program, which is currently under development and will shortly be piloted in the Bronx and Manhattan, will increase the transparency and accountability of arraignments on a wide-scale basis and add efficiency to the entire process.

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May 21, 2008

Hon. Juanita Bing Newton Administrative Judge, NYS Office of Court Administration 100 Centre Street, Room 539 New York, NY 10013

Dear Judge Newton:

On behalf of the Criminal Justice Operations Committee of the New York City Bar Association, we write this letter to express our support for New York City's upcoming e-arraignment program, which will, when brought to fruition, help all five boroughs in New York City meet the important 24 hour arraignment goals set forth in *People ex rel. Maxian* v. *Brown*, 164 A.D.2d 56 (1st Dept. 1990), aff'd, 77 N.Y.2d 422 (1991) by streamlining and automating the arrest-to-arraignment process and creating a comprehensive timestamp monitoring tool that will track the progress of the arraignment process from agency to agency. We strongly believe that with your cooperation, the e-arraignment program, which is currently under development and will shortly be piloted in the Bronx and Manhattan, will increase the transparency and accountability of arraignments on a wide-scale basis and add efficiency to the entire process.

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Barry Kamiyıs



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May 21, 2008

John A. Feinblatt, Esq. NYC Mayor's Office of the Criminal Justice Coordinator 1 Centre Street, Room 1012 New York, NY 10007

Dear Mr Keinblatt:

On behalf of the Criminal Justice Operations Committee of the New York City Bar Association, we write this letter to express our support for New York City's upcoming e-arraignment program, which will, when brought to fruition, help all five boroughs in New York City meet the important 24 hour arraignment goals set forth in *People ex rel. Maxian* v. *Brown*, 164 A.D.2d 56 (1st Dept. 1990), aff'd, 77 N.Y.2d 422 (1991) by streamlining and automating the arrest-to-arraignment process and creating a comprehensive timestamp monitoring tool that will track the progress of the arraignment process from agency to agency. We strongly believe that with your cooperation, the e-arraignment program, which is currently under development and will shortly be piloted in the Bronx and Manhattan, will increase the transparency and accountability of arraignments on a wide-scale basis and add efficiency to the entire process.

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May 21, 2008

Steven Banks, Esq. Attorney-in-Charge, The Legal Aid Society 199 Water Street New York, NY 10038

Steven Dear Mr. Banks:

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