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CITY BAR

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October 1, 2007

Re: Judicial Salaries

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Dear Senator/Assembly Member,

We, the members of the Litigation Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, are writing with respect to the issue of judicial pay raises. Fair compensation increases are long overdue for a state bench that is without peer among the nation's judiciaries. New York's judges have maintained their longstanding excellence even in the face of staggering case loads and the increasingly complex issues they face every day in court.

From our perspective as private and public sector practitioners who appear in various courts throughout the state, we believe that failing to provide salary increases to New York's judges is unwise public policy. It depletes the morale of the judiciary, devalues its role within our system of government and creates a serious threat to the quality of the bench. The issue of judicial pay raises is one that encompasses not only good government but elemental fairness and our state's historical prestige as well.

The time to remedy this problem is long past due. We, therefore, urge you to act decisively and insure that legislation providing for judicial raises is passed during the present legislative session.

The Litigation Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York

By: 
Stewart Aaron, Chair