

George Latimer
County Executive

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the membership of the Assigned Counsel Board of Directors, due to the newly created Board:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George Latimer, County Executive of Westchester County, in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Westchester County Charter, appoint Barbara Finkelstein, 77 Deertrack Lane, Irvington, New York as a member of the Assigned Counsel Board of Directors, for the term March 1, 2022 to February 28, 2023.

Given under my hand
and seal this 1st day
of March, 2022.


George Latimer
County Executive

Office of the County Executive

Michaelian Office Building
148 Martine Avenue
White Plains, New York 10601

Email: CE@westchestergov.com
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westchestergov.com



George Latimer
County Executive
Office of the County Executive

February 22, 2022

Ms. Barbara Finkelstein
77 Deertrack Lane
Irvington, New York 10533

Dear Ms. Finkelstein;

Westchester County has amended our Assigned Counsel Plan by enacting Chapter 186 of the Laws of Westchester County to establish an Independent Office of Assigned Counsel. This Office will be a County Department administered by an Assigned Counsel Administrator with the advice and consent of an eleven (11) member Assigned Counsel Board of Directors. ("Board of Directors"). According to Chapter 186, one member shall be chosen from among several recommended by the Westchester Women's Bar Association ("WWBA"). As you know, you have been recommended by the WWBA to serve as a director. It is therefore my pleasure to appoint you to serve as a member of the Board of Directors based upon a recommendation by the WWBA, effective March 1, 2022, for a term to expire on February 28, 2023.

Your appointment is subject to confirmation by the Westchester County Board of Legislators, however your service begins immediately. You must complete the attached Oath of Office and file it with the County Clerk, and provide this office with a copy within 30 days of the date of this appointment letter, or within 30 days after the commencement of your term. When you have filed your Oath of Office, a Resolution to confirm your appointment will be submitted to the County Board of Legislators. As part of the confirmation process, you may be called before the Board to be interviewed.

As a member of a County Policymaking Board, you are responsible for adhering to the requirements of our Code of Ethics, which includes the annual filing of a financial disclosure statement with the County Board of Ethics. A financial disclosure form will be mailed to you under separate cover.

Warmest wishes for a successful tenure. We will be contacting you in the near future to schedule the first meeting of the Board of Directors.

Very Truly Yours,

George Latimer
Westchester County Executive

GL/nn

cc: Honorable Board of Legislators
Joan McDonald, Director of Operations

BARBARA FINKELSTEIN
77 Deertrack Lane
Irvington, New York 10533
(914) 591-8078 (H)
(914) 420-4805 (Cell)

Professional Experience

**Special Advisor to New York State Permanent Commission
On Access to Justice**

January 2021- Present

Provide leadership and guidance to the Commission, including chairing a statewide Housing Workgroup formed to recommend ways the state and federal government can increase justice for tenants and homeowners in housing matters.

**Westchester County Right to Counsel Coalition
Co-chair**

2017- Present

Organized a County Wide Coalition in 2017 to advocate for equity for tenants in housing proceedings. Over 20 organizations joined the coalition including not for profit housing organizations and religious institutions to support a right to counsel for low income tenants.

**Legal Services of the Hudson Valley
White Plains, New York 10601
Executive Director, and CEO**

1995 - 2020

Provided leadership and vision to the largest civil legal services program for the poor in the Hudson Valley region in New York State.

Responsibilities included developing plans for providing civil legal services to the indigent, monitoring performance of staff, developing policies and procedures, regulatory compliance, financial management, resource development and fundraising, pro bono development, community relations, human resources management, grant administration, labor relations, assisting the Board of Directors to discharge their duties, and overall supervision of legal and non-legal staff.

- Increased by tenfold the size of the program to \$21 million and 165 employees.
- Created Development and External Relations Department.
- Enhanced private fund raising program to include foundations, corporations, major gifts, and law firms.
- Established an Access to Justice Fundraising Campaign.
- Worked to strengthen, expand, and train the Board of Directors.
- Started Family Law, Domestic Violence, Children's Advocacy, LGBTQ, Veterans and Military Families and Disabilities units.

- Started an internal Diversity and Inclusion Council, created a Chief Diversity Officer position, and committed the organization to antiracist policies and practices.

**Queens Legal Services Corporation
Long Island City, New York 11101
Assistant Project Director**

1992 – 1995

Responsibility for the internal management and oversight of a 50-person civil legal services program serving a diverse, urban population. Program-wide responsibilities included grant management, pro bono development, supervision of managers and lawyers, community relations, fund raising, legislative advocacy, human resources, labor relations, and financial management.

- Oversaw the expansion and relocation of the Long Island City office.
- Expanded legislative and statewide advocacy for funding for civil legal services.
- Developed a law student recruitment program.

Managing Attorney

1986 – 1992

Responsibility for the operation of the Long Island City office, including management, administration, supervision, evaluation, personnel, and labor relations.

Director of Litigation

1985 - 1986

Oversight of legal work of attorneys and paralegals in a 30-person legal services branch office. Instituted and supervised federal and state litigation, including class actions and other impact litigation. Responsibility for legislative advocacy and governmental relations.

Staff Attorney

1979 – 1985

Represented indigent individuals and families in a wide variety of civil matters, including housing, government benefits, family, domestic violence, employment, consumer, education, and immigration law. Instituted significant litigation and worked in citywide teams in federal and state courts.

Education

Rutgers Law School, Newark, New Jersey, J.D. 1978

Hunter College, B.A. communications, summa cum laude, 1975

Bar Admissions

New York State: First Department, 1979

**United States District Court: Southern and Eastern
Districts, 1979**

Professional Affiliations and Activities

**Special Advisor, New York State Permanent Commission on Access to Justice, 2021
Member, New York State Permanent Commission on Access to Justice, 2010 - 2020**

**Member, the Legal Aid Committee, New York State Bar Association, 1999 - Present
Chairperson, the Legal Aid Committee, New York State Bar Association, 1999-2005**

Member, Westchester Women's Bar Association, 1996 - Present

**Member, President's Committee on Access to Justice, New York State Bar Association, 2008 -
2017**

**Founding and Board Member, New York Legal Services Coalition, 2014 – 2020
Co-President, New York Legal Services Coalition, 2020**

**Board Member, Nonprofit Westchester, 2014 – 2020
Vice President of the Board, Nonprofit Westchester, 2020**

**Board Member, Westchester Women's Agenda, 2000 – 2015
Member Westchester Women's Agenda, 2000 - 2021**

AWARDS

**Denison Ray Civil Legal Services Executive Director Award, New York State Bar Association,
2018**

Diversity Trailblazer Award, New York State Bar Association, 2018

**Diversity Achievement Award Westchester Women's Bar Association to Legal Services of the
Hudson Valley, 2016**

**White Plains Hispanic Day Festival Honoree, for offering legal services to the Latino community
2016**

Hudson Valley Magazine, Women in Business Award, 2016

Westchester Business Journal, Most Socially Conscious Attorney, 2016

Induction into Westchester Women's Hall of Fame, 2015

Jim Curran Leadership Award from West County Public/Private Partnership for the Aging, 2014

Harold Fitzpatrick Community Leadership Award from the African American Men of Westchester for community leadership, 2014

2014 Wayfair (Westchester County) 914 Inc. Women in Business Award Leadership Award, Westchester Hispanic Coalition, 2007

Pace Law School, Public Interest Lifetime Achievement Award, 2006

COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER
OATH OF OFFICE

For Appointees to County Boards and Commissions

STATE OF NEW YORK)
)
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER) ss.:

I, BARBARA FINKELSTEIN do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support
(Print or Type Name)

the constitution of the United States, and the constitution of the State of New York, and that I will
faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Board member of Assessed ^{Corral SD.} in and for the
County of Westchester, according to the best of my ability.

Date: 3/1/22

Barbara Finkelstein
(Signature)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of March,
2022.

Jane Aoyama-Martin

(Signature)
Jane Aoyama-Martin
Notary Public, State of New York
Reg. No. 31-4741288
Qualified in Westchester County
Commission Expires Sept 30, 2025

(Title of Official Administering Oath)

Mail original Oath of Office to Office to Andrew Ferris, Office of the County Executive, 148 Martine Ave., Room 916D, White Plains, NY 10601 for filing within thirty (30) days of the commencement of the term of office or the notice of appointment.