

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 Wendy Marie Weathers, Esq., Clair Gjertsen & Weathers PLLC, 4 New King Street, Suite 140, White Plains, New York as a member of the Assigned Counsel Board of Directors, for the term March 1, 2022 to February 29, 2024.

Given under my hand and seal this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2022.

George Latimer County Executive



George Latimer County Executive Office of the County Executive

February 22, 2022

Ms. Wendy Marie Weathers, Esq. Clair Gjertsen & Weathers PLLC 4 New King Street, Suite 140 White Plains, New York 10604

Dear Ms. Weathers,

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 of the Board shall be chosen from several recommended by the Westchester County Bar Association ("WCBA"). As you know, you have been recommended by the WCBA 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 WCBA, effective March 1, 2022, for a term to expire on February 29, 2024.

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.

George Latiner
Westchester County Executive

GL/nn Attachment

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



December 3, 2021

Via Email
Westchester County Bar Association
4 Westchester Park Drive, Suite 155
White Plains, New York 10604

Re: Consideration for Westchester County Independent Office of Assigned Counsel Board of

Directors

Dear WCBA:

Attached please find my resume for consideration for Westchester County Independent Office of Assigned Counsel Board of Directors. I have been involved for the past few years in the conversations and meetings that led to the development of the Westchester County Independent Office of Assigned Counsel. It has been a pleasure and I would be honoured to represent the Westchester County Bar Association in the continued development of this Office.

Having been actively involved in many of the bar associations in Westchester County, I have the knowledge and understanding of the dynamics involved in being a board member. Each position I have held has broadened and deepened my commitment to enhance the administration of justice and to be a force of good for the betterment of the public community. Assigned Counsel is a vital function to the community and, as such, I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors and be part of the growth and success of this great organization.

By way of background, I am a partner and owner of Clair Gjertsen & Weathers PLLC. Over the course of my 25-year career, I have successfully represented individuals and families who have faced economic hardship by educating and advocating for them. I have done numerous hours of pro bono work for pro se bankruptcy litigants through Legal Services of the Hudson Valley. I am passionate about litigating for meaningful change and fighting for those who cannot help themselves.

Finally, I am dedicated, personable, thoughtful and work effectively with diverse groups—qualities that, I believe, serve me well as a leader in the legal community. If appointed, I will provide the best of my abilities for Assigned Counsel's development and success and do my part to build upon the hard work and commitment of those who have been involved since inception.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

Wendy Marie Weathers

Wendy Marie Weathers, Esq.

Enclosure

# Wendy Marie Weathers, Esq. CLAIR GJERTSEN & WEATHERS PLLC 4 New King Street, Suite 140 White Plains, New York 10604

914-472-6202 - wendy@cgwesq.com - www.cgwesq.com

#### RELEVANT WORK HISTORY

CLAIR GJERTSEN & WEATHERS PLLC

January 2021 - Present

Partner/Owner
Civil Litigation focusing in foreclosure defense and real property
Bankruptcy concentrating in Chapter 7 & 13 Consumer Cases

CABANILLAS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

September 2010 – December 2020

March 2000-March 2010

Senior Managing Attorney

Structured the Litigation Department focusing in foreclosure defense and real property litigation Established a Bankruptcy Department, concentrating in Chapter 7 & 13 Consumer Cases

KNUCKLES, KOMOSINSKI & ELLIOTT, LLP
 Senior Associate/Managing Attorney
 Hired for the task of restructuring the foreclosure department
 Reviewed all stages of the foreclosure action

March 2010-July 2010

ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Senior Associate/Managing Attorney

Promoted to Senior Associate in 2004

Litigation Department: May 2009 - March 2010

Managing Attorney of the Bankruptcy Department: March 2008 - May 2009

Information Technology Department on Firmwide Projects July 2007 - March 2008

Managing Attorney of Fishkill Office: March 2000 - July 2007

#### FORECLOSURE EXPERIENCE

Represented both institutional lenders and borrowers in all aspects of the mortgage banking industry and residential foreclosures for over 20 years. With experience as a bank attorney prosecuting foreclosure. Wendy understands the banks' strategies and thinks outside the box for creative solutions. Fought the banks during the mortgage foreclosure crisis in 2008 and has a wealth of experience in understanding the problems and opportunities faced by homeowners. Guides foreclosure defense clients through the legal process while educating them about their options and reducing their anxiety of the unknown.

Court-Appointed Referee for Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess and Westchester County Foreclosure Actions

#### **CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY EXPERIENCE**

Represented large banks as creditors in Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 Consumer Cases. Filed numerous Objections to Plan, Proofs of Claims, Motion for Relief from Stay and Adversary Proceedings. Handled evidentiary hearings regarding Proofs of Claim, Chapter 13 Plan Feasibility and Attorneys' Fees.

Filed hundreds of Chapter 7 consumer cases leading to discharge in EDNY, SDNY and CT. Filed over 200 Chapter 13 consumer cases leading to confirmed plans and discharge. Filed numerous Objections to Claims, Motions to Avoid Llens, Cramdown Motions, Motions appointing Real Estate Agent, Motion for Approval of Sale. Handled numerous loan modifications through the EDNY and SDNY Loss Mitigation Procedures resulting in Permanent Loan Modifications.

#### PAST PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES:

- Associate, Jeffrey A. Kosterich & Associates, P.C. 1997-2000
- Assistant District Attorney, King's County District Attorney 1996-1997

#### **BAR ADMISSIONS:**

- New York 1997
- U.S. Districts of Southern 1998, Eastern 1998, Western 2000, Northern 2001, New York and U.S. District
   Court of Connecticut 2013

#### **HONORS & AWARDS:**

- New York State Bar Association's 2016 President's Pro Bono Service Award for the 9th Judicial District.
- Legal Services of the Hudson Valley Pro Bono Volunteer—honored Oct 26, 2016 for training and assisting clients in filing Chapter 7 bankruptcy

#### **LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:**

Westchester County Bar Association (WCBA)

Immediate Past-President, 2021-present

President, 2020-2021

President Elect, 2019-2020

Vice-President, 2018-2019

Treasurer, 2016-2018

Assistant Treasurer, 2015-2016

Chair of the Membership Committee, 2015 - 2019

Co-Chair of the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Committee, 2015-2019

Member 2010 - Present

**Executive Committee Member 2015 - Present** 

Westchester Women's Bar Association (WWBA)

Co-chair of Practice Management Committee, 2012 - Present

Co-chair of Bankruptcy Committee, 2010 - Present

Board Member 2010 - Present

Women's Bar Association for the State of New York (WBASNY)

Member 2011 - Present

Co-Chair of the Family Friendly Event Committee, 2013-2017

New York State Bar Association (NYSBA)

Member 2000 → Present

Member of House of Delegates (WCBA appointed), 2016-2019

Fairfield County Bar Association (FCBA)

Member 2013 - Present

Co-Chair of the Bankruptcy Committee, 2013-2019

• Westchester Residential Opportunities: (WRO), a non-profit organization that promotes equal, affordable & accessible housing opportunities.

Board Member, 2015 - Present

Member of Development Committee

Westchester County Democratic Committee (WCDC)

- Judicial Screening Committee, Present

#### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS:

- Active member of the Hudson Valley Bankruptcy Bar Association (HVBBA)
- Active member of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA)

#### **EDUCATION:**

City University of New York (CUNY) Law School at Queens College, J.D. 1996
 Activities: New York City Law Review, Articles Editor; Community Project Volunteer; Law Related Educator; Phi Alpha Delta

Honors: Bishop Francis J. Mugavero Scholarship

State University of New York (SUNY) at Stony Brook, B.A. Political Science 1993
 Honors: Dean's List; Dr. Victor A. Bacile Scholarship; St. Francis Scholarship

#### PANELS/LECTURES:

Wendy has been published in industry magazines and has been a panelist at numerous CLE training seminars in foreclosure, bankruptcy, loan modification, and post foreclosure sale issues.

"Mortgage Modification and Its Alternatives: How to Keep Your House" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on June 24, 2011 Instructing real estate agents on loss mitigation issues when dealing with distressed debt

"Impact of the Current Economy on Matrimonial Cases: House Sales, Foreclosures and Bankruptcles" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on January 10, 2012 Instructing practitioners on the basics of bankruptcy, foreclosure and real estate when dealing with distressed debt

"Impact of the Current Economy on Matrimonial Cases" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on January 10, 2012 instructing real estate agents on loss mitigation issues when dealing with distressed debt

"Tools to Run an Efficient Bankruptcy Practice – From Intake to Discharge" at WWBA Bankruptcy Committee Roundtable on February 23, 2012 instructing practitioners on the basics of bankruptcy

"<u>Foreclosure, Bankruptcy & Loss Mitigation</u>" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on October 18, 2012 instructing practitioners on the basics of bankruptcy

"<u>Divorce and Real Estate</u>" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on February 27, 2013 instructing real estate agents on unique divorce and real estate issues when dealing with distressed debt

"341 Meetings and Trustee Relationships" at WWBA Bankruptcy Committee Roundtable on April 4, 2013 instructing practitioners on the basics of bankruptcy

"<u>Distressed Debt Sellers</u>" Panel Speaker at Ravels Convention on April 25, 2013 instructing real estate agents on unique real estate issues when dealing with distressed debt

"The Impact of the Current Economy as Related to Distressed Homeowners: A Primer on Foreclosure Defense & Loss Mitigation" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on October 1, 2013 instructing real estate agents on foreclosure and loss mitigation when dealing with distressed debt

"<u>Distressed Real Estate</u>" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on October 23, 2013 instructing attorneys in the basics of foreclosure and short sales

Wendy Marie Weathers, Esq.

- "PACE Bridge the Gap Bankruptcy Basics" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on December 7, 2013 Instructing practitioners on the basics of bankruptcy
- "<u>Divorce and Real Estate: TLC for Sellers</u>" Panel Speaker at CLE Programs, 2014 2017 instructing real estate agents on unique divorce and real estate issues when dealing with distressed debt
- "The Impact of the Current Economy: A Primer of New York Foreclosure & Collections After Death" Speaker sponsored by Lorman Education Services at CLE Webinar on July 27, 2016 instructing practitioners of recent amendments for RPAPL and CPLR
- "Bankruptcy Basics" Panel Speaker at CLE Programs, 2016 instructing practitioners on the basics of bankruptcy in NY
- "What Every Consumer Lawyer Should Know About Bankruptcy" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on January 31, 2017 instructing practitioners on the basics of bankruptcy in CT
- "How to File Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Petition" Panel Speaker at training for LSHV Pro Bono Bankruptcy Clinic on June 12, 2017
- "Short Sales and Distressed Sellers" Panel Speaker at CLE Programs, 2017 2019 instructing real estate agents on unique real estate issues when dealing with distressed debt
- "WCBA New Lawyer's Section Bridge the Gap Foreclosure" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on February 1, 2018 instructing new lawyers the basics of foreclosure practice
- "Bankruptcy Basics in CT" Panel Speaker at CLE FCBA Program on September 27, 2018 instructing practitioners on the basics of bankruptcy
- "What Every Consumer Lawyer Should Know About Bankruptcy" Panel Speaker at CLE Program on May 13, 2019 instructing practitioners on the basics of bankruptcy in NY
- "The Means Test in Consumer Bankruptcy Cases" Speaker sponsored by Lorman Education Services at CLE Webinar on June 30, 2021 instructing practitioners of the basics of calculating the means test
- "New York State Foreclosure and Repossession Compliance" Panel Speaker sponsored by Lorman Education Services at CLE Webinar on August 31, 2021 instructing practitioners of the basics of foreclosure practice in post COVID era
- "<u>Moratorium Madness: Post Pandemic Foreclosure</u>" Panel Speaker at CLE WWBA Program on September 9, 2021 Instructing practitioners of basics of the foreclosure practice in post COVID era

## COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER OATH OF OFFICE

### For Appointees to County Boards and Commissions

STATE OF NEW YORK ) ) ss.: COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER )	
I, Werdy Mark Weathers do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support (Print or Type Name)	port
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 the Assigned Cruncol Roard in and for	r the
County of Westchester, according to the best of my ability.  Date: 3-1-2022 (Signature)	
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1: Tday of March.  (Signature)	
2032	

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.