


# AJA Supports New York Judicial Pay Increase

**T**he AJA has added its voice to those supporting a pay increase for New York state judges, who have received only two raises in the past 20 years. AJA president Steve Leben issued a statement on June 27 in support of calls for the New York legislature to move forward on judicial pay.

"The courts and judges of New York have quite properly been well represented from the beginning of our nation's history, through the times of great judges like Justice Benjamin Cardozo and Judge Learned Hand, and continuing to the present days of [Chief Judge Judith] Kaye and her fellow judges," Leben said. "Yet salaries

of New York judges have fallen way below their national averages: the National Center for State Courts now ranks the pay of New York judges 48th out of the 50 states on a cost-of-living adjusted basis."

A proposed pay increase for New York state judges has been stalled in the legislature over attachment to campaign finance reform, the pay of other state officials, and other unrelated issues. Background on New York state judicial salaries and the AJA's full statement on the issue can be found on the home page of the AJA Web site. 

## AJA Committee Leaders for 2007

**M**uch of AJA's work is done in committee. The committee chairs for 2007 are listed below. To sign up for a committee, contact either

AJA President Steve Leben (e-mail: [sleben@ix.netcom.com](mailto:sleben@ix.netcom.com) or 913-715-3822) or one of the judges serving as committee chairs.

**Access to Justice:** Elizabeth Hines, 15th Judicial District Court, Ann Arbor, Mich. ([ephines@a2gov.org](mailto:ephines@a2gov.org))

**Arbitration and Mediation:** Stephen Cooper, 46th Judicial District Court, Southfield, Mich. ([sccoop@aol.com](mailto:sccoop@aol.com))

**Awards:** Denise Lightford, Phoenix (Ariz.) Municipal Court ([dmlightford@aol.com](mailto:dmlightford@aol.com))

**Budget:** Gerald Elliott, Johnson County (Kan.) District Court ([Gerald.Elliott@jocogov.org](mailto:Gerald.Elliott@jocogov.org))

**Bylaws:** John Conery, 16th Judicial District Court, Franklin, La. ([jconery@16jdc.org](mailto:jconery@16jdc.org))

**Conference Site Selection:** Michael Cicconetti, Painesville (Ohio) Municipal Court ([judgemike@pmcourt.com](mailto:judgemike@pmcourt.com))

**Court Security:** Vicent Lilly, Roanoke County (Va.) General District Court ([vlilley@roanokecountyva.gov](mailto:vlilley@roanokecountyva.gov))

**Domestic Violence:** John Conery, 16th Judicial District Court, Franklin, La. ([jconery@16jdc.org](mailto:jconery@16jdc.org))

**Education:** Mary Celeste, Denver (Colo.) County Court ([mceleste@ci.denver.co.us](mailto:mceleste@ci.denver.co.us))

**Judicial Independence and Accountability:** Michael McAdam, Kansas City (Mo.) Municipal Court ([mikediv201@aol.com](mailto:mikediv201@aol.com))

**Juvenile Justice:** Jerrauld Jones, Norfolk (Va.) Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court ([jcyjones@courts.state.va.us](mailto:jcjones@courts.state.va.us))

**Law Student Essay Competition:** John Rosson, Knoxville (Tenn.) Municipal Court ([jrosson@cityofknoxville.org](mailto:jrosson@cityofknoxville.org))

**Membership:** Michael McAdam, Kansas City (Mo.) Municipal Court ([mikediv201@aol.com](mailto:mikediv201@aol.com)), and Gayle Nachtigal, Washington County (Ore.) Circuit Court ([Gayle.A.Nachtigal@ojd.state.or.us](mailto:Gayle.A.Nachtigal@ojd.state.or.us)), Cochairs

**Nominations:** Michael Cicconetti, Painesville (Ohio) Municipal Court ([judgemike@pmcourt.com](mailto:judgemike@pmcourt.com))

**Problem-Solving Justice:** Brian MacKenzie, 52nd District Court (Oakland County, Mich.) ([mackenzieb@co.oakland.mi.us](mailto:mackenzieb@co.oakland.mi.us)), and Morton Minc, Municipal Court of Montreal ([mmsinc@ville.montreal.qc.ca](mailto:mmsinc@ville.montreal.qc.ca)), Cochairs

**Public Information/Public Relations:** Larry Allen, Willoughby (Ohio) Municipal Court ([judge@willoughbycourt.com](mailto:judge@willoughbycourt.com)), and David Gorbaty, Fourth Circuit (La.) Court of Appeals ([dgorbaty@bellsouth.net](mailto:dgorbaty@bellsouth.net)), Cochairs

**Resolutions:** Richard Kayne, Medical Lake (Wash.) Municipal Court ([rbkayne@cs.com](mailto:rbkayne@cs.com))

**White Paper:** Kevin Burke, Hennepin County (Minn.) District Court ([Kevin.Burke@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:Kevin.Burke@courts.state.mn.us))