



**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Court Consolidation

PURPOSE: To consider the concept of consolidating the New York State trial courts.

NEW YORK CITY

Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 10:00 a.m.
Assembly Hearing Room 1923, 19th floor
250 Broadway, New York, NY 10007

ALBANY

Thursday, November 21, 2019, 10:30 a.m.
Legislative Office Building, Hearing Room A
198 State Street, Albany, NY 12247

ORAL TESTIMONY BY INVITATION ONLY

New York's trial court system consists of eleven different trial courts. These hearings are meant to consider the advantages and disadvantages of the most recent proposal made by the Chief Judge of the State of New York to consolidate New York's trial courts. Under the Chief Judge's consolidation proposal, the court system would have a two-part structure. One part would be a new Supreme Court consisting of the current Supreme Court, County Court, Family Court, Surrogate's Court and the Court of Claims. The second part would be a new Municipal Court, consisting of the current District Courts on Long Island, the New York City Civil and Criminal Courts, and the City Courts outside of New York City. This proposal does not include the Town and Village Courts.

Persons invited to present pertinent testimony to the Committees at the above hearings should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Oral testimony will be limited to 5 minutes' duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committees will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committees staff as early as possible.

Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committees would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

In order to further publicize these hearings, please inform interested parties and organizations of the Committees' interest in hearing testimony from all sources.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Committees, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), have made their facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to State Legislature facilities and activities.

Jeffrey Dinowitz
Member of the Assembly
Chairman, Committee on Judiciary

Brad Hoylman
Member of the Senate
Chairman, Committee on Judiciary

PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

Persons invited to present testimony at either of the public hearings on Court Consolidation are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and mail, email or fax it to:

Amanda Wagner
Analyst
Assembly Committee on Judiciary
New York State Capitol – Room 513
Albany, New York 12248
Email: wagnera@assembly.state.ny.us
Phone: (518) 455-4313
Fax: (518) 455-7250

Burton Phillips
Albany Chief of Staff & Counsel
NYS Senator Brad Hoylman
310 Legislative Office Building
Albany, New York 12247
Email: Phillips@nysenate.gov
Phone: (518) 455-2451
Fax: (518) 426-6846

- I plan to attend the public hearing on Court Consolidation to be conducted by the Joint Committee on Judiciary on November 13, 2019 in New York City.
- I plan to attend the public hearing on Court Consolidation to be conducted by the Joint Committee on Judiciary on November 21, 2019 in Albany.
- I have been invited to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be limited to five (5) minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide 10 copies of my prepared statement.
- I will address my remarks to the following subjects:

- I do not plan to attend the above hearing.
- I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.
- I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.
- I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:** _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FAX TELEPHONE: _____