



A Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York

The Judicial Evaluation Committee (JEC) of the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys (GRAWA) convened recently to review the qualifications of the candidates running in the upcoming November election for seats on Rochester-area courts. Early voting begins on October 26 and runs through November 3, 2024. This year's general election is Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

The GRAWA JEC is a non-partisan group representing a cross-section of attorneys in the Greater Rochester area. The attorneys on the Committee come from a variety of political backgrounds, purposefully balanced, and work for a variety of public and private firms and agencies which practice in relevant courts.

GRAWA's evaluation process includes reviewing a detailed questionnaire completed by the candidate, reviewing writing samples, conducting reference checks, and holding an in-depth interview with each candidate. Evaluation criteria include experience, integrity, professional competence, judicial temperament, service to the law and contribution to the effective administration of justice and service to the community.

Candidates who participate in the evaluation process are rated "exceptionally well qualified," "well qualified," "qualified," or "not qualified." A rating of "commended" may also be given to those candidates who have demonstrated outstanding sensitivity to issues of women, minorities, and bias. Candidates who were invited to participate in the evaluation process, but failed to participate may be found "not recommended for failure to participate," or "not rated for a legitimate reason" (at the discretion of the JEC and for those candidates whom the JEC is unable to evaluate because of, for example, the JEC's inability to obtain sufficient information concerning a candidate's qualifications).

GRAWA's ratings for the 2024 judicial candidates are as follows:

New York State Supreme Court, Monroe County

Hon. Stacey Romeo	Exceptionally Well Qualified
Erin Skinner, Esq.	Well Qualified
John Bringewatt, Esq.	Well Qualified
Ed White, Esq.	Not Recommended for Failure to Participate

Monroe County Family Court

Ella Marshall Esq.	Exceptionally Well Qualified
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Monroe County Court

Hon. Michael Ansaldi	Well Qualified
Joe Dinolfo, Esq.	Not Recommended for Failure to Participate

Rochester City Court

Michael Geraci, Esq.	Well Qualified
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**NOTE: the above ratings do not endorse or signify support by GRAWA of any one candidate over another.**

GRAWA will host a Q&A session with participating judicial candidates at a luncheon on October 25, 2024, moderated by GRAWA Member and Past President Hon. Karen Morris (Ret.).

For eligible individuals who have not yet registered to vote, October 26, 2024 is the last day to register for the November 5, 2024 election and the deadline to request absentee or mail-in ballots.

*GRAWA is a chapter of the Women's Bar Association for the State of New York. Launched in October 1983, GRAWA currently has more than 250 members. GRAWA's mission is to advocate for the professional development and well-being of all women attorneys, increase representation and opportunities for all women in the legal profession, engage in open dialogue and seek perspective from individuals with diverse backgrounds, facilitate fair and equal justice for all, and act as a united voice for members to promote inclusive policies and legislation of statewide, national, and international significance, while performing all work with an intersectional lens.*