

CHIEF BANKRUPTCY JUDGE ALAN S. TRUST

The Honorable Alan S. Trust ascended to the bench on April 2, 2008, and sits in the Eastern District of New York. He became Chief Bankruptcy Judge on October 1, 2020.

Judge Trust has been an adjunct professor of law at the St. John's University School of Law since 2009. He served a 2-year term as President of the Eastern District of New York Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and serves as CLE Committee co-chair. He is a past Chair of the Bankruptcy Law Section of the Federal Bar Association, a member of the Board of Directors of that Section and has served as the CLE Committee chair. He is also a member of the Editorial Board of the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal, is a coordinating editor for the Journal, and for several years has had responsibility for the *Dicta* column. He is also a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges.

Judge Trust has been previously designated by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals to mediate cases in the Southern District of New York and to sit in the District of Connecticut bankruptcy court. Judge Trust has continued to serve as a judge mediator in EDNY .

Judge Trust has been selected by the Federal Judicial Center on several occasions to serve as a faculty member for national bankruptcy judge workshops and has spoken on issues such as evidence and the power of the bankruptcy courts to regulate its proceedings through sanctions and contempt. He also served for several years on the Judiciary Data Working Group under the auspices of the Administrative Offices of the United States Courts.

Judge Trust remains a frequent speaker and contributor for numerous CLE events and seminars, addressing bankruptcy, mediation, trial practice and ethics issues, and has participated in a number of civics programs. He was instrumental in the creation of the Pro Bono Mediation Program and the formation of the Consumer Lawyer Advisory Committee adopted by the Eastern District of New York Bankruptcy Court.

Judge Trust attended Syracuse University, graduating summa cum laude in 1981, and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He attended New York University School of Law, where he served on the Law Review from 1982-83, and graduated cum laude in 1984. After graduation, he relocated to Dallas, Texas to begin his law practice. Judge Trust opened his own law firm (Trust.Law.Firm, P.C.) in Dallas in December 1995, and managed that firm until appointed to the bench.

Tracy Catapano-Fox is a Supreme Court Justice in the Eleventh Judicial District. She graduated *magna cum laude* from St. John's University with a double Bachelor of Arts in Government/Politics and History, and a minor in Philosophy of Law. In 1997, she received her Juris Doctor from Boston College Law School. Judge Catapano-Fox began her legal career as an Assistant District Attorney with the Queens District Attorney's Office, and later became a senior associate at the law firm of Ross, Suchoff, Hankin, Maidenbaum, Handwerker and Mazel, P.C., handling federal and state civil and criminal litigation. In 2002, she entered the court system as court attorney to the Honorable Augustus C. Agate, and in 2007, was selected as the Executive Assistant to Administrative Judge Jeremy S. Weinstein. In 2010, she was appointed as the first female Chief Clerk for Queens Supreme Court, Civil Term. Judge Catapano-Fox was appointed by Mayor Michael Bloomberg as the Executive Director of the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board in June 2013, where she was responsible for overseeing the independent civilian agency which investigated, reviewed, and recommended police discipline for violations of the NYPD Patrol Guide. In October 2014, she returned to Queens Supreme Court as a court attorney referee, handling civil and matrimonial trials in addition to foreclosure matters. In 2017, she was elected to Queens Civil Court, and in 2020, was appointed as Supervising Judge of Queens Civil Court. Judge Catapano-Fox was elected to Queens Supreme Court in 2020, where she currently presides over the City calendars and Compliance Conference Part. Judge Catapano-Fox was selected to create the Foreclosure Settlement Conference Part in Queens Supreme Court in 2008 and oversaw the first mandatory settlement conference part in New York State. She has lectured extensively on foreclosure matters in state and federal court on behalf of the Unified Court System and has been a part of the UCS Foreclosure Working Group since its inception.



Honorable Cenceria P. Edwards is Acting Justice of the Supreme Court Civil Term presiding in the Foreclosure Part-1, Kings County. Justice Edwards has the distinct privilege of holding two accomplished professional licenses in New York State. In addition to her law license, Justice Edwards is also a Certified Public Accountant.

She was elected in November 2014 to a ten- year term to the New York City Civil Court, Kings County where she presided over trials and matters involving commercial real estate, personal injury, no-fault medical claims, consumer debt disputes and small claims. She also presided over trials from the NYS Supreme Civil Court pursuant to CPLR 325D (2017-2021). She served her first two years in Kings County Criminal Court.

She is the author of “A View from the New York City Bench: Vacating Default Judgments – The Self-Represented Litigant” and co-author of the article, “Consumer Credit Fairness Act-S153(2021), Impact on the New York State Judiciary,” release date February 2022.

Prior to her judicial career, she managed the Law Firm of Cenceria Edwards, PLLC, which focused on complex litigation and transactional matters for real property. As a trial attorney, Justice Edwards argued intricate motions throughout the New York State Supreme Civil Courts and argued cases before the Appellate Division Second Judicial Department.

She is well versed in business and transactional matters for fortune 500 companies. In her capacity as a tax lawyer, Justice Edwards advised businesses regarding the structure of acquisitions, mergers, and dispositions of its assets for compliance with federal, state, and local tax laws. She wrote tax opinions for international and domestic banks at some of the largest global companies, USA Network Inc., KPMG, LLP, and Deloitte & Touche, LLP. Early in her accounting career, at Arthur Andersen, LLP, she audited financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and prepared annual reports, 10K and 10Q filings for Securities and Exchange Commission clients.

Because of her distinguished legal and judicial career, she was named a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Currently, she serves on the board of the NYC Civil Court Judges Association. She is the immediate past Chair of The Judicial Council of the National Bar Association and previously she served as Director of District 2 of the National Association of Women Judges (2017-2019 representing New York, Connecticut, and Vermont).

Justice Cenceria P. Edwards holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Bernard M. Baruch College, City University of New York, and a Juris Doctor from New York Law School. She is licensed to practice law in the New York State Courts, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, United States Supreme Court and United States Tax Court.

Justice Cenceria P. Edwards also serves as a speaker on judicial panels. She is the recipient of numerous awards for her contributions to the judiciary and the bar.

Brief Bio/Pic AJ Desmond A. Green



Justice Desmond A. Green is the Administrative Judge for Civil and Criminal terms in Richmond County Supreme Court, appointed in January 2018 by Chief Judge Janet DiFiore and noted by Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence K. Marks as an “exemplary public servant, representing a wealth of talent and expertise, and possessing the leadership, vision and collegiality for success” in his critical new role.

Justice Green has been on the bench for seventeen years having first been elected to the Civil Court in 2004, and assigned to the Criminal Court where he served both on Staten Island and in Brooklyn. He was subsequently elevated to Acting Supreme Court Justice in 2010 and elected to the Supreme Court bench in Kings County in 2014.

He formerly served as an Assistant District Attorney in Kings County as well as subsequently entered private practice in both criminal and civil law, before joining the bench.

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HON. WILLIAM A. HOHAUSER

4 Oakland Drive
Port Washington, N.Y. 11050
(516) 944-1709
bhohauser@verizon.net

EMPLOYMENT:

**NASSAU COUNTY DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
2016-present**

Elected to preside over both civil and criminal matters, including both jury and non-jury criminal trials. Representative criminal trials include driving while intoxicated, assault, harassment, menacing and stalking matters. Preside over criminal suppression hearings involving evidentiary issues. Sat in arraignments on entire panoply of criminal matters, from misdemeanors through homicides. Civil matters include presiding over, but are not limited to, landlord-tenant, personal injury, breach of contract, insurance defense, omnibus commercial claims and fraud matters.

**MORGAN STANLEY, Executive Director, Legal & Compliance
1987-2015**

Responsible for litigation of large-scale arbitrations and trials for Morgan Stanley. Served as lead counsel of record in more than 150 published decisions, also as supervisor of outside counsel in thousands of matters. Substantive areas of practice have included securities law, corporate law, employment law, RICO, real estate law, UCC claims, tort claims and complex commercial litigation practice. Within the securities law field, topics have included many primary areas of securities fraud, operational and sales practice issues, unauthorized, insider and manipulative trading, margin issues, private placements, alleged misappropriation, selling away, unauthorized business activity, and supervision.

Represented the firm and its advisors in numerous regulatory and enforcement matters, including serving as lead in-house counsel before FINRA, the SEC, the CFTC, as well as state investigations and audits. Prepared and defended witnesses for OTRs at all principal self-regulatory organizations.

Participated in firm-wide Compliance working groups to review and harmonize policies and procedures manuals; Legal & Compliance trainer for newly and recently-hired registered representatives.

**SCHNADER, HARRISON, SEGAL & LEWIS, Associate
1986-7**

General litigation practice, including conducting trials, motion practice in federal and state court, primarily in relation to securities, contracts and general commercial claims.

**PARKER CHAPIN FLATTAU & KLIMPL, Associate
1984-6**

Responsibilities included motion practice, depositions, drafting and legal research.

CALHOUN SCHOOL

Varsity Basketball Coach, 1983-4

EDUCATION:

Columbia University Law School J.D., 1984
Moot Court Executive Committee
Director, Jerome Michaels Jury Trials

Harpur College, SUNY-Binghamton B.S., B.A. 1981
Dual Major: Economics, Mathematics
Phi Beta Kappa (junior); High Honors (Economics)
Teaching Assistant: Economics, Mathematics, Chemistry

ADMISSIONS: New York State

POLITICAL: Legislative District Leader, Nassau County Democratic Party
Treasurer, Former NY State Senator Craig Johnson
Treasurer, Nassau County Legislator Wayne Wink

ASSOCIATIONS: College Council Member, SUNY Old Westbury (Gubernatorial app't)
American Corporate Counsel Association
Vice President, Port Washington Board of Education (2009-2015)
FINRA Arbitrator (Chair)
NYSE Arbitrator & Hearing Board Officer

Anthony J. Provenzano, Esq., is a Court Attorney-Referee assigned to New York State Supreme Court, County of Nassau, Tenth Judicial District. Mr. Provenzano is responsible for the overall management and the daily operation of the Foreclosure Settlement Conference Part, which includes, among other things, the conferencing and mediation of both forward mortgage and reverse mortgage residential foreclosure cases.

Mr. Provenzano is also the Court's liaison to: all of the financial entities and servicers that participate in the in the foreclosure settlement conferences; housing counseling entities; Empire Justice; Center for NYC Neighborhoods; New York Legal Assistance Group; the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery; New York Rising; the Nassau County Bar Association; and the Office of the District Attorney, County of Nassau, Criminal Complaint, Financial Crimes, and Government and Consumer Frauds Bureaus. He is responsible for coordinating, implementing, and managing the Bulk Foreclosure Settlement Conferences and has also assisted with the formation and continued development of the Foreclosure Inquest Program and the Post Foreclosure Settlement Conference Mediation Part.

Prior to serving as a Court Attorney-Referee, Mr. Provenzano was a Principal Law Clerk to the Honorable Anthony Marano, the former Administrative Judge, County of Nassau, Tenth Judicial District; Supreme Court Justice; and Presiding Justice, Appellate Term, Supreme Court of the State of New York, Ninth and Tenth Judicial Districts.

In June 2015, he was appointed as a Small Claims Assessment Review Hearing Officer ("SCAR Hearing Officer") conducting tax hearings in and for the Supreme Court, County of Nassau, of the Tenth Judicial District.

Mr. Provenzano has a B.B.A. in Accounting from the Frank G. Zarb School of Business at Hofstra University. He also attended the Attorney's Assistant Program at Adelphi University and earned a certificate with concentrations in Real Estate, Mortgages and Estates, Trusts and Wills. Subsequently, he earned a Juris Doctorate from Jacob D. Fuchsburg Law Center, Touro College. In 2016, he earned a Masters Degree in International Relations with a concentration in International Law and Diplomacy, and a Minor in American Government from St. John's University.

Mr. Provenzano is trained in Interdisciplinary Collaborative Practice. He has also attended the N.Y.S. Judicial Institute in White Plains, N.Y. where he received training in Commercial Mediation and Managing High Conflict Litigants. In addition, he attended The Center for Understanding in Conflict & The Center for Mediation in Law and Community Mediation Services, Inc. in Queens, N.Y. where he was trained in Facilitative Mediation, both of which are approved by the New York State Unified Court System's Office of ADR Programs.

THOMAS F. WHELAN
NEW YORK STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE
Biography

Justice Whelan is a New York State Supreme Court Justice, who was elected to a 14 year term in November, 2000 and re-elected in November, 2014, to a second term, by the residents of Nassau and Suffolk Counties. He is a graduate of Columbia University and Brooklyn Law School.

Justice Whelan started his career in law as a law clerk to Suffolk County Court Judge Harvey Sherman and as a law clerk to NYS Supreme Court Justice Alfred Lama. He was also the Town Attorney for the Town of Babylon and spent 9 years in private practice in a law firm that concentrated in environmental law, zoning and commercial matters.

Since his election to the bench, Justice Whelan has lectured more than 28 times for the Suffolk County Bar Association and other Bar Associations regarding various aspects of the law and has published at least seven articles in the Suffolk Lawyer, the publication of the Bar Association. On four occasions, he has received an Award of Recognition from the Suffolk County Bar Association and he continues to devote time as a Judge in mock trials for high schools and Touro Law School. He is a chapter editor of the Bench Book for Trial Judges, published by Thomson Reuters. In 2013, he was elected an ASTAR Science and Technology Fellow and was a Director of the Suffolk Academy of Law, the educational arm of the Bar Association (2011 - 2014).

As a Supreme Court Justice, he currently presides over a Foreclosure Part. Previously, he did oversee an inventory of over 1,000 civil cases and concentrated on medical malpractice jury trials. He was assigned to the Commercial Division of Suffolk County from 2011-2014. From 2001-2013, he presided over 616 jury trials; 122 non-jury trials; 539 hearings; and decided 17,566 motions, with 2,413 motions decided in 2010 alone.

Further, Justice Whelan, who is married with two children, is an active member of the Wading River Volunteer Fire Department (3rd Asst. Chief) and an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). He was the Fireman of the Year in 2007, received the Chief's Award in 2012, and the High Point Award in 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2019 and 2021.