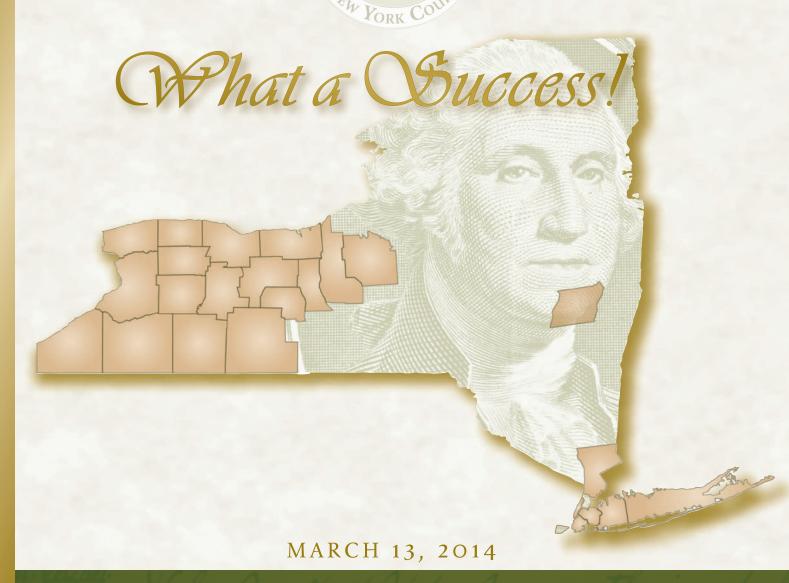
2014 GALA DINNER

New York State Commercial Division





HE SOCIETY WAS LAUNCHED IN 2002 as a not-for-profit organization with the mission of preserving the legal history of the State of New York. It seeks to educate students and foster scholarly understanding and public appreciation of the rich legacy of the New York courts and the legal profession.

ANNUAL SERIES & OCCASIONAL LECTURES

The Society has held lectures each year **since 2003** at the New York City Bar as well as other forums across the State. The programs feature guest lecturers who are prominent lawyers, jurists and scholars, experts in their fields.

Here are the programs since 2008.

2008

- Courtrooms and Courthouses:
 What do they say? How do they say it?
- Inaugural Society Gala: 80th Anniversary of the New York County Courthouse & 40th Anniversary of the Hon. Norman Goodman, County Clerk and Clerk of the Supreme Court
- Stephen R. Kaye Memorial Program 2008
 The Founding of the Republic: Has History Given New York its Due?
- Ladies of Legend: The First Generation of American Women Attorneys, a joint program with the U.S. Supreme Court Historical Society

2009

- 2009 Society Gala: Honoring the Legacy of Judith S. Kaye
- Stephen R. Kaye Memorial Program 2009 Before New York There Was New Netherland: Our Dutch Heritage 1609 - 2009

2010

- 2010 Society Gala: Honoring Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman
- Law, Justice & the Holocaust: Lessons for the Courts Today
- Stephen R. Kaye Memorial Program 2010
 Robert H. Jackson: Lawyer, Justice, Nuremberger...New
 Yorker

2011

- 2011 Society Gala: Honoring Roy L. Reardon
- Nominated From New York:
 The Empire State's Contributions to the Supreme Court Bench John Jay: A Family Affair
- Stephen R. Kaye Memorial Program 2011 Lincoln, the Civil War, and Freedom of the Press: New York Divided

2012

- 2012 Society Gala: Honoring the NYS Bar Association
- Nominated From New York: The Empire State's Contributions to the Supreme Court Bench Thurgood Marshall: "Mr. Civil Rights"
- Scales of Justice: An Evening of Live Music & Copyright Law
- The Bartlett Commission, Reshaping the Law: A 50 Year Retrospective and an Enduring Legacy

2013

- 2013 Society Gala: Honoring Lady Justice: New York State Court of Appeals Women Jurists
- PRO BONO New York Lawyers and Public Service
- Stephen R. Kaye Memorial Program 2012 (Rescheduled) A Tour of Our Beautiful Courthouses: Preserving, Protecting and Defending Them
- The Empire State's Contributions to the Supreme Court Bench Learned in the Law: Role of the Solicitor General...a New York Point of View

Website (www.nycourts.gov/history)

The Society launched a new website in 2013, designed to provide cutting edge access to its growing collection of historical materials and resources. Included among these is an expanded digital library of biographies, images and documents. In addition the Society is working to expand its digital content through a series of innovative projects, including:

- Legal History by Era: A comprehensive look at the State's history since 1624
- County Legal History: Covering the local history of all of New York's 62 Counties
- Historical Court Records: Improving public access to court records statewide

New York Court of Appeals Lecture Series - Since 2008

The Society has sponsored the New York Court of Appeals lecture series held in Albany **since 2006**. This represents the first time this important building has been open to the public as well as Society members for an educational lecture series.

2008 • David J. Stern: On Courts and Sports

• Owen Pell & Monica Dugot: Stolen Art

• Woodstock: The Music of the First Amendment

2010 • The Hudson: Yesterday & Today

2011 • The Hellhounds of Wall Street

2012 • Shakespeare and the Law

2013 • Festival of the Romantics: A Natural Celebration

PUBLICATIONS

The Society publishes annually *Judicial Notice*, a journal featuring articles of historical substance and scholarship, including writings by distinguished historians, attorneys and other authors.

The Society has also published several books:

2013 • OPENING STATEMENTS: LAW, JURISPRUDENCE AND THE LEGACY OF DUTCH NEW YORK

2007 • The Judges of the New York Court of Appeals: A Biographical History edited by Hon. Albert M. Rosenblatt with foreword by Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye, providing a comprehensive, authoritative guide to 160 years of the important legal legacy of the New York Court of Appeals. Published by Fordham University Press.

2006 • **HISTORIC COURTHOUSES OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK: A STUDY IN POSTCARDS** by Julia and Albert Rosenblatt, featuring rare postcard images of county courthouses throughout New York State with accompanying text.

2006 • **COURT OF APPEALS LECTURE SERIES:** Compendium of three lectures comprising the 2006 Court of Appeals Lecture Series.

ORAL HISTORY

The Society is recording the oral histories of prominent retired judges and other legal luminaries of New York State to preserve the living record of their experiences. Our Oral History project has made great strides. We have captured most of the oral histories of the living retired Judges of the New York Court of Appeals, including those of New York's two living Former Chief Judges, Judith S. Kaye and Sol Wachtler. We are also developing a video library of the histories of members of the New York Bar who stand as legal luminaries.

DAVID A. GARFINKEL ESSAY CONTEST

The annual David A. Garfinkel Essay Contest invites CUNY & SUNY community college students from across the State to write an original essay on specified topics of legal history. Cash prizes are awarded to the winners.

2008 - The Courts and Human Rights in NY: The Legacy of the Lemmon Slave Case

2009 - The New Netherland Legal System and the Law of 21st Century New York

2010 - The Evolution of Justice Along the Erie Canal

2011 - The Legal Legacy of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire

2012 - The Blue and the Gray: New York During the Civil War

2013 - Cyberspace and the Law: What Are Our Rights and Responsibilites?

2014 - Who Watches the Watchers? Free Speech and Free Press in the Electronic Age

EDUCATION INITIATIVES

The Society has provided grants to Bard High School Early College, a public school with campuses in Manhattan and Queens, to develop classroom curriculum and to teach its students about the role of the courts in a civil society...how to administer justice and preserve the rule of law. It is designed to reach a diverse population of New York City public students in middle and high schools. The Society plans to expand its education initiatives to reach underserved students in upstate New York.



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NEW YORK STATE COMMERCIAL DIVISION



PROGRAM

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INTRODUCTION

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Chief Judge of the State of New York

VIDEO PRESENTATION

What a Success!

HONORING THE
NEW YORK STATE COMMERCIAL DIVISION

The Historical Society of the New York Courts

Commercial Division Courthouses Across New York State

he Commercial Division formally opened its doors in Monroe and New York Counties on November 6, 1995. Today, it has grown to cover 10 jurisdictions across the State, ranging from the eastern tip of Long Island to Lake Erie. This map gives a snapshot of the locations where the Commercial Division currently sits as well as the years founded, charting its substantial growth. Note that for Monroe County (1995) and Erie County (1998), their jurisdictions were expanded, respectively, to Judicial Districts in 2005 (7th JD) and 2007 (8th JD).

As a sign of its growing stature, we have included a list of countries who have sent delegations to, and States influenced by, the NYS Commercial Division.



Commercial Divisions Across the State

1995 Monroe & New York Counties

1998 Erie, Nassau & Westchester Counties

2002 Albany & Suffolk Counties

2003 Kings County

2005 Queens County; Monroe County expands to 7th JD

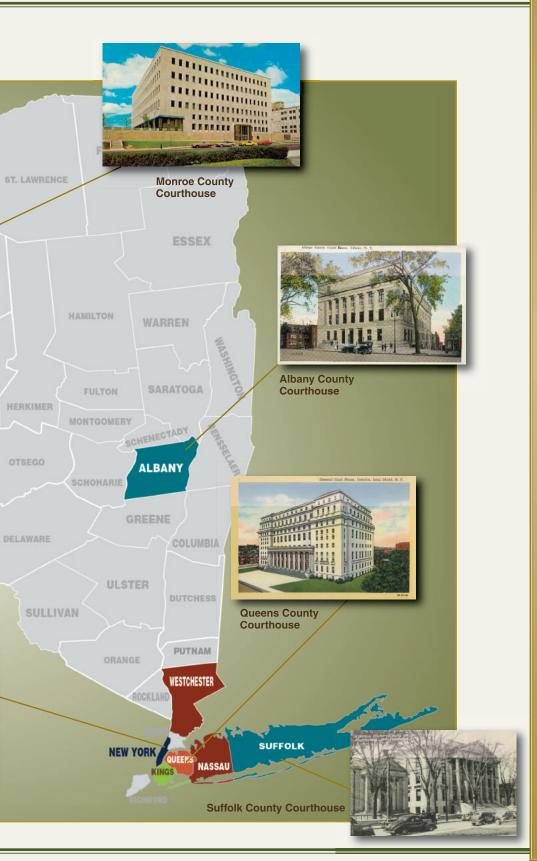
2007 Onondaga County; Erie County expands to 8th JD



Onondaga County Courthouse



New York County Courthouse



Countries That Have Sent Delegations to the NYS Commercial Division Since 2009

AUSTRALIA BANGLADESH

BRAZIL

CHINA

DUBAI

EGYPT

FINLAND

IRAQ

ISRAEL

Kosovo

MACEDONIA

MEXICO

NIGERIA

RUSSIA

SOUTH KOREA

THAILAND

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

States Influenced by the NYS Commercial Division

ALABAMA

FLORIDA

IOWA

MARYLAND

MASSACHUSETTS

MICHIGAN

NEVADA

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Оню

PENNSYLVANIA

RHODE ISLAND

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Meeting of the Commercial Division Judges on January 29, 2014 at the 2014 New York State Bar Association Annual Meeting in New York City.

PHOTO BY RICHARD SMITH / NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION STATE BAR NEWS

Jan. 1, 1993

Four specialized "Commercial Parts" of the New York County Supreme Court are established and staffed by four experienced justices to deal with complex litigation.

Jan. 5, 1994

Governor Mario



Cuomo's annual message to the legislature proposes reforms including the establishment of a court to deal with commercial issues.

Jan. 1995

The Commercial and **Federal Litigation** Section of the New York State Bar **Association** issues a key report recommending the creation of a Commercial Court.

Feb. 1995

In response to the Section's report, Chief Judge Kaye creates the **Commercial Courts** Task Force, headed by Hon. E. Leo Milonas and Robert L. Haig, **Esq.**, to examine the Section's report and develop a blueprint for implementation. The Task Force determines that there should be established a Commercial Division of the Supreme Court in areas of the State where significant commercial litigation is conducted.

History of the Commercial Division of the New York Supreme Court

Nov. 6, 1995

The Commercial **Division operations** begin with five Supreme Court Justices assigned to the Division in New York County and one Justice assigned in Monroe County.

Dec. 2, 1997

"Courtroom 2000" is unveiled in one of the Commercial Division courtrooms in the **New York County** Courthouse. It is designed to utilize new technology to increase the pace of trials.



Dec. 1998 Chief Judge Kave announces new Commercial Division parts in Nassau, Erie & Westchester Counties.

1999

The Commercial Divisions in Monroe. New York and Westchester Counties pioneer electronic filling in New York State.

2002-2005

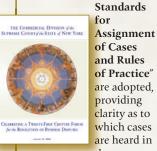
Over these years the Commercial Division expands to Albany. Kings, Queens & Suffolk Counties. The jurisdiction of the Monroe County Commercial Division is expanded to the 7th Judicial District.

Dec. 2005

The Office of Court Administration launches a series of focus groups to promote candid dialogue among judges, lawyers, and clients to generate new ideas, identify potential areas of improvement and assess the application of Commercial Division "best practices." The Final Report issued contains recommendations for both internal improvements of the Commercial Division, and for how innovations created within the Division can be exported.

Jan. 17, 2006

The "Statewide



the Commercial Division as well as uniform practices and procedures for cases once they are within the Commercial Division.

2007

The Commercial Division is expanded to Onondaga County.

Nov. 28, 2007

Jurisdiction of the Erie County Commercial Division is expanded to cover the entire 8th **Iudicial District.**

2009

New legislation making electronic filing permanent in

New York State is passed, after Filing by

Electronic Means (FBEM) is successfully piloted in several Commercial Division parts.

June 20, 2012

The Chief Judge's Task **Force on Commercial** Litigation in the 21st **Century** issues report containing practical proposals for moving the Commercial Division into the next century.

Mar. 26. 2013

Chief Judge Lippman names members of the permanent Commercial Division Advisory Council, a body recommended by the 2012 report. Robert L. Haig is named Chair of

the new body.





2014 GALA DINNER

HONORING THE

New York State Commercial Division

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