

MEDIA ADVISORY

New York State

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Hon. Jonathan Lippman Chief Administrative Judge Communications Director Mai Yee, Assistant Director (212) 428-2500 Date: April 27, 2005

The American Jury: Focus of Statewide Town Hall Meetings

In honor of Jury Appreciation Week, the New York State Judiciary will be hosting town hall meetings throughout the State, engaging citizens in a dialogue about the American jury in an effort to increase public awareness about the importance of jury service. The meetings will led by Mark C. Zauderer, a State bar leader who chaired Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Commission on the Jury. Participants will include representatives of the Judiciary, community and business leaders, students and the media.

Jury Appreciation Week—an annual event instituted by the New York State court system to recognize the contributions of jurors statewide—will be observed the week of May 2nd this year, and courts throughout the State will be hosting celebrations of this event locally. The celebration coincides with both a national effort undertaken by the American Bar Association to educate the public about jury service and this year's Law Day theme, "The American Jury: We the People in Action."

The schedule of town hall meetings is as follows:

ALBANY: April 29 - 2:00 to 3:00

New York Court of Appeals 20 Eagle Street Albany, New York 12207 (Note: Press are also welcome to attend the Law Day program, which starts at 12:30.)

SYRACUSE: <u>May 3 - 12:00 to 1:30</u> The County Courthouse, Courtroom 400 401 Montgomery Street Syracuse, New York 13202

BUFFALO: <u>May 4 - 12:00 to 1:30</u> Old County Hall Ceremonial Courtroom, 2nd floor 92 Franklin Street Buffalo, New York 14202

NEW YORK CITY: May 5 - 12:00 to 1:30

New York County Supreme Court Courtroom 300 60 Centre Street New York, New York 10007

LONG ISLAND: May 6 - 12:00 to 1:30

Cohalan Court Complex Ceremonial Courtroom S-24 400 Carleton Avenue Central Islip, New York 11722