

“Debating Potential Changes to Judicial Nomination Commission Should Not Delay Filling Vacancies,” *New York Law Journal*

Publications

January 31, 2024

By: Susan Kohlmann

In her editorial, Partner Susan Kohlmann, President of the New York City Bar Association, responds to recent debate about the Commission on Judicial Nomination. The 12-member panel is constitutionally mandated to screen candidates to serve on the New York Court of Appeals, but some in New York’s political community have opined that the commission should be cast aside as it wrestles with filling commission vacancies that could hamper its ability to put forward candidates on the court.

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Noting that the commission is established by the state’s constitution, Susan calls upon the commission’s appointers to swiftly fill vacancies. “Failure to do so will impede the state’s ability to fill a vacancy on the Court of Appeals,” she argues. She agrees that the provision that establishes the commission should also be thoroughly reviewed and notes that the City Bar Association formed a working group to do just that. “And they are hard at work.”

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