

# Dutchess County Bar Association

## JUDICIAL SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Full Name: SUSAN M. SULLIVAN-BISCEGLIA
2. Identify the Court or public office and, where applicable, Judicial Department, Judicial District, County, or Court District for which you are a candidate and state whether you are a candidate for election or for appointment: SUPREME COURT JUSTICE, 2<sup>ND</sup> DEPT, 9<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT
3. List the Political party or parties which are supporting your candidacy, or of which you are seeking nomination: REPUBLICAN
4. List in reverse chronological order all employment and periods of unemployment since graduation from law school. (If law school attendance did not commence within a few months following completion of undergraduate course study, list also all employment and periods of unemployment between college and law school.) Continue on additional page, if necessary. You may also attach a resume or CV.

Name of Employer	City and State	Dates of Employment (Month /Year)	Job Title
NYS UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM, NY, NY		1/22 – 5/23	Acting City of Poughkeepsie Judge
TOWN OF LAGRANGE	LaGrangeville, NY	1/19 – Present	Town Justice
VILLAGE OF WAPPINGERS FALLS	Wappingers Falls, NY	4/16 – 9/22	Associate Justice
SULLIVAN BISCEGLIA LAW FIRM, Poughkeepsie, NY		3/06 – Present	Attorney-at-Law

SULLIVAN AVIATION, NY, LLC,	Wappingers Falls, NY	1/08 – Present	Director
SULLIVAN AVIATION, LLC	Wappingers Falls, NY	8/99- 07	Director
NYS INDUSTRIAL BOARD OF APPEALS	Albany, NY	5/05 – 2009	Member
MELZER & SULLIVAN BISCEGLIA, LLC	NY, NY	9/03 – 9/05	Attorney-at-Law
(name change)			
MELZER SINGH SULLIVAN BISCEGLIA LLC,	NY, NY	9/03 – 9/03	Attorney-at-Law
IBM	Poughkeepsie, NY	1/02 – 2/03	Staff Attorney
ROGERS & WELLS LLP			
(name change)			
CLIFFORD CHANCE ROGERS & WELLS LLP	NY, NY	6/98 – 1/03	Associate Attorney
CARTER WALLACE, INC.,	NY, NY	9/93 – 6/98	Paralegal/Assistant Attorney

12. Have you ever been issued a license, other than a marriage license, license to practice law, license as a notary public or a driver's license? Yes No If yes, please describe the license, and list the dates of its initial issuance and its last renewal: Yes, NYS Real Estate Salesperson/Broker - 2021; FAA Private/ Commercial Pilot - 1986

(b) Has any license, including a license to practice law, a license as a notary public, or a driver's license, ever been revoked or suspended? Yes No If yes, please describe the circumstances: not practicing law in ct.

13. College and professional schools (other than law schools) attended:

School	Major/Course of Study	Dates Attended	Date of Graduation
MARIST COLLEGE	POUGHKEEPSIE NY	1986-1988	1988
DUTCHESS COUMMUNITY COLLEGE	- POUGHKEEPSIE, NY	1981-1983	1983
KRISSLER BUS.INSTITUTE	- POUGHKEEPSIE, NY	1983-1984	1984

16. Law Schools attended:

School	Location	Dates Attended	Date of Graduation
NY LAW SCHOOL	NY, NY	1993-1997	1997

(d) FOR ATTORNEYS: Have you complied with all registration requirements for lawyers, including Continuing Legal Education, in the State of New York and any other jurisdiction in which you are licensed to practice law? Yes No If no, please describe the circumstances:

FOR JUDGES: Have you attended the mandatory Judicial Ethics Training courses offered at the Judicial Institute? Yes No If yes, please provide dates and location of all such courses attended.

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If no, please provide the dates and location of any such courses for which you are registered in the future.

18. State all courts in which you are admitted or have ever been admitted to practice, together with dates of admission:

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| (a) New York (give Judicial Department): 2 <sup>ND</sup> DEPT | Date of<br>Admission: 4/98 |
| (b) All other Federal and State Courts:                       | Dates of<br>Admission:     |
| (ii): US SUPREME COURT  | 6/01                       |
| (iii): US DISTRICT COURT – SOUTHERN DIST, NY                  |                            |
| (iv): US DISTRICT COURT – EASTERN DIST, NY                    |                            |
| (v): CT SUPERIOR COURT - 10/97                                |                            |

19. State all areas of law in which you have concentrated or have had substantial experience for any sustained period of time:

Civil/Criminal Litigation; Matrimonial; Child Custody; Visitation; Neglect; PINS; Guardianship; Real Property; Foreclosures; Personal Injury; Landlord Tenant; Corporate; Aviation; Intellectual Property; Banking; Finance

20. Are you a member of any bar association or professional organization? Yes  No  If yes, please give the following information for each such association or organization:

Name of Association	Dates of Membership	Committee Service
NYS MAGISTRATES ASSOC. Education, Judicial Wellness, Media, By-Laws, Therapeutic	2016 – Present	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.; Legal Legislative,
DC CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL Committee	2021-Present	Chair, Centralized Arraignment
DC MAGISTRATES ASSOCIATION Centralized Arraignment Committee	2016 – Present	President, VP, Secretary, Chair,
NYS BAR ASSOC.	1998 - Present	
DC BAR ASSOC.	1998 - Present	

38. Describe any community activities in which you have engaged: I have been involved in many community activities including: Board Member of Hudson Valley Hospice, Vassar Warner Home & Walkway Over the Hudson; Lagrange Sunrise Rotary; LaGrange Lions Club; Chamber of Commerce, International Organization of Women Pilots, Lawyer Pilot Association, Aircraft Owners & Pilots Assoc, FAA Aviation Safety Counselor, Congressman Hamilton Fish intern volunteer

39. Have you written articles for publication? Yes  No  If yes, please give the name and date of the publication and the title of each article: REPORT ON AVIATION SAFETY, 64 J. AIR L. & COMM. 771; NYSMA MAGISTRATE MAGAZINE 2021;

Have you had any teaching experience, including serving as a presenter for Continuing Legal Education programs, in law or related fields? Yes  No  If yes, please describe:

**Chair, NYSMA Judicial Wellness Committee**

1. Presenter with Chief Administrative Judge Kathie Davidson, Hon. Jonah Treibwasser for New York State Judicial Institute
2. Organized 1<sup>st</sup> Webinar in 2020- Dan Lukasik, OCA Judicial Wellness Coordinator and several Webinars thereafter every year, next Webinar – June 15, 2023

3. Lead creation of 1<sup>st</sup> Wellness Retreat proposed for Honor's Haven proposal for August 2023
4. Presenter at Westchester County Bar Associations Wellness Webinar
5. Facilitate educational articles for NYSMA Magazine
6. Organized Judicial Wellness Class at 2021, 2023 NYSMA Conferences
7. Organized Webinar Judicial Wellness retreat with Hon. Gerald Lebovits, Acting NYS Supreme Court Judge Professor of Law, Columbia, NYU and Fordham Law Schools.
8. Keynote speaker, 2021 NYS Magistrates Court Clerks Assoc. conference – Judicial Wellness
9. Presenter at 2022 and 2023 OCA Taking the Bench Training

**Co-Chair, NYSMA Conference Training & Education Committee**

10. 2019 Fall Conference
  - a. Panelist for “Judicial Roundtable” class.
  - b. Presenter for “CDL Training” class.
  - c. Presenter for “Judges as Court Clerks” class.
11. 2020/2021 Fall Conference
  - a. Organizer/Liaison “Judicial Wellness On and Off the Bench” class with Hon. John Rowley, Hon. Patrick O’Sullivan.
  - b. Lead Instructor/Presiding Justice “Mock Criminal Arraignment.
  - c. Committee Liaison and Panelist for “Dangerous Dogs” class.
12. 2022 Fall Conference
  - a. Panelist – Effective Handling Commercial Driver’s License Cases
  - b. Coordinator – Small Claims
13. 2023 Fall Conference
  - a. Panelist & Presiding Justice– Mock Trial
  - b. Coordinator – Therapeutic Courts, Judicial Wellness
14. Chaired Judicial and Court Clerk Training on Criminal Disposition Reporting and Advanced Class on Court Room Program held in 2022 in the Town of LaGrange Court.
15. 2023 Spearheaded & Developed 1<sup>st</sup> NYSMA Lunch Hour Webinar Series
  - a. Small Claims Webinar – May 18, 2023, Featuring Hon. Gerald Lebovits, NYS Supreme Court Justice & Professor of Law at NYU, Columbia and Fordham Universities, co-author of The Small Claims Manual, provided to all NYSMA Judges via the Webinar. Hon. Jonah Triebwasser & Hon. Susan Sullivan Bisceglia also served as special guest presenters. Very well attended, informative and lively presentation.

**President, Dutchess County Magistrates Association**

16. Lead DCMA Covid-19 Pandemic & Established Virtual Arraignment Plan.
17. Established first meetings via Skype for Business and Teams for Dutchess County Magistrates and educational webinars and judicial wellness webinars during the Pandemic.
18. Informed members on administrative/executive orders, and changes to operations
19. Arranged monthly meetings and speakers and CLE/CJE credit for members.
  - a. Hon. Jonah Triebwasser, President, NYSMA
  - b. Hon. David Gideon, Past-President, NYSMA on CAP Courts.
  - c. Kathy McQuade, Jonathan Heller, Dutchess County Probation.
  - d. Diane Turo, Esq., Office of Justice Court Support, Bail Reform.
  - e. Jeremy Zeliger, Esq., Office of Justice Court Support, Summary Proceedings.
  - f. Thomas Carr, Office of Policy & Planning, NYS OCA, DWI
  - g. Dan Lukasik, OCA Judicial Wellness Coordinator
  - h. Cpt. Kevin Sherer, OCA Safety & Security, Judicial Threats

40. Have your qualifications for public office previously been reviewed by any bar or other professional association? Yes

\_\_\_No If yes, please identify the organization, state the date of the review, and detail all findings by the organization:

WESTCHESTER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION – September 20, 2023

Attach the following to this questionnaire.

**FOR ATTORNEYS:**

1. A list of the last ten trials or appeals in which you have actively and substantially participated in. Please include the title of the case, the index or docket number and the court in which the case was heard and a brief description of the case.

**FOR JUDGES:**

1. A list of the last ten opinions, trials or appeals. Please include a citation for each (if published) or a brief description of the nature of the case (if not published).
  - i People v. Anderson – Mental Capacity to Stand Trial – CPL 730
  - ii People v. Lalli – Legality of Police Stop and Seizure of Evidence
  - iii People v. Patrick – Sufficiency of Accusatory Instrument
  - iv People v. Cooper - Suppression of Evidence
  - v People v. Casino- Suppression of Evidence
  - vi People v. Simonety – Double Jeopardy
  - vii People v. Manderville – Sufficiency of Certificate of Readiness for Trial
  - viii Kotzias – Landlord Tenant
  - ix Liu – Brockhoff – Landlord Tenant
  - x Carter Insurance – Employment Contract

**FOR ALL CANDIDATES**

Please specify any additional information which is reasonable to expect the Committee would want to know when it considers your qualifications for the office you seek.

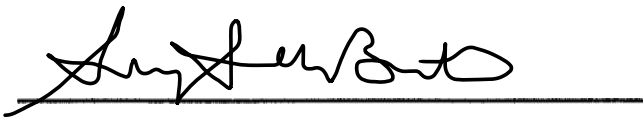
I was elected as the 1<sup>st</sup> Woman Judge in my hometown of LaGrange, where I provide justice with the utmost integrity and fairness. Having served as Acting City of Poughkeepsie, Town of Union Vale, Pawling and Patterson Justice, as well as Associate Justice of the Village of Wappingers Falls, I have over 25 years of experience as an attorney and over 7 years of experience as Judge. I was elected as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Director of the New York State Magistrates Association, and President of the Dutchess County Magistrates Association. I was elected to serve as Chairperson of the Centralized Arraignment Committee of the Dutchess



County Criminal Justice Council . I travel across New York State providing education to the judiciary and advocate for justice in our courts. During COVID-19 Pandemic, I led the implementation of virtual arraignments in the Justice Courts and participated in Hon. Kathie Davidson's special committee to help lead our courts through the pandemic. I was a member of the Chief Judge's Excellence Initiative. I received a J.D. from New York Law School (working full time during the day while attending law school at night). I maintain a law office at the Hudson Valley Regional Airport and have over 30 years of combined experience in the courts, major law firms, Fortune 500 companies and the NYS Industrial Board of Appeals. As a corporate litigation attorney for Clifford Chance Rogers & Wells, LLP, in NY, NY I handled some of the most complex litigations and transactions in the world. Furthering my commitment to civics, I frequently welcome students to my court to participate in mock trials help them learn about the administration of justice and civic mindedness. I am a frequent judge for Mock Trials for Law Schools and High Schools throughout NYS. Inspired by my father and family of U.S. Airforce fighter pilots, I am a Commercial Pilot with instrument and multi-engine ratings, a prior FAA Aviation Safety Counselor, and enjoy playing the piano. I am a lifelong resident of the Hudson Valley where I reside with my family. A candidate for Justice of the New York State Supreme Court requires the utmost integrity, great focus, dedication and perseverance, qualities I have obtained through my education, wide breadth of experience and community service, which makes me uniquely suited to serve as a NYS Supreme Court Justice.

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I acknowledge by my signature that the answers I have given are true and complete and recognize my continuing obligation during the evaluation process to correct and supplement my answers in order to ensure that they remain true and complete. 9/29/23

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen B. ...", written over a horizontal line.

Signature

A horizontal line intended for the date.

Date