

READERS' COMMENTS

# Commission Raises N.Y. Judges' Pay 27% Over 3 Years

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By WILLIAM GLABERSON

The increases were less than what some had hoped for the more than 1,200 state judges after 12 years without a raise, but also come at a difficult time politically.

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101. Larry L  
Dallas, TX  
August 27th, 2011  
6:22 pm

@DianeChicago

Frankly, both the legal and medical professions are bleeding this country dry.

Here are some national stats from the BLS.GOV website (these are 2010 numbers so they probably even higher today):

Lawyers:  
Annual Wage \$112,760/\$165,470 (median/top 25 percentile)

Dentists, General:  
Annual Wage \$100,650/\$141,040 (/top 25 percentile)

Orthodontists:  
\$200,290 (average - all other stats are "n/a" because they are >\$166,400)

Family and General Practitioners:  
\$163,510 (median - higher quartiles are "n/a" because they are >\$166,400)

Pediatricians, General:  
\$155,370 (median - higher quartiles are "n/a" because they are >\$166,400)

Anesthesiologists:  
\$220,100 (average - all other stats are "n/a" because they are >\$166,400)

Surgeons:  
\$225,390 (average - all other stats are "n/a" because they are >\$166,400)

Obstetricians and Gynecologists:  
\$210,340 (average - all other stats are "n/a" because they are >\$166,400)

No other professions even come close. Not IT, scientists or engineering (which also usually require advanced degrees). Other lower professions in the medical/dental field all pay on average less than \$100K and many manual labor jobs in these fields pay less than \$20/hr.

Even in general finance, an area rife with overpaid investment bankers and money managers don't generally cut such a broad swath in the economy (because the highest paid people in finance only number in the

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102. June  
summerfield florida  
August 27th, 2011  
6:22 pm
- #18 Abraham Ben Juda Are You crazy? You say police and firemen, garbage collectors etc produce nothing?? Well buddy, just try getting along with out them especially in Florida! I am grateful for every person willing to put their life on the line for me and my neighbors. Any one who disagrees should fight the fire in his house by himself and sit up all night with a baseball bat for protection!

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103. Yvette  
NYC  
August 27th, 2011  
6:22 pm
- Many of the judges in NY County that I've observed don't even deserve to be on the bench let alone a raise. There are a few stellar exceptions in Civil Court. Maybe the low pay will encourage the incompetent and racist ones to find some other gig.

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104. bordercolies3  
NYC  
August 27th, 2011  
6:22 pm
- Practising Member of NYS bar since 1982says: Unless the salary of the NYS judges are not set at least comparable to Federal judges we will keep getting political dreck.Why shd a good lawyer drop his practice to run for a judgeship, unless he can support his family on the income. Place a graduate tax on lawfirms dependent on the number of employed lawyers and of counsel that shd fund a salary base for the judiciary.

Recommend Recommended by 0 Readers

105. CWH  
Huntington, NY  
August 27th, 2011  
7:10 pm
- Judges do one thing continue, continue, continue. If they actually worked they would be worth what they are now getting. They do not deserve anything but contempt from the public as they are nothing more than lawyers in judges clothing, most elected and therefore basis. Look at any case and see the wealthy client always gets away while the others are milked by continuing the case. Supreme Court McNulty here in Suffolk County actually was caught with her hand in the cookie jar and used her courtroom to extract monies / favors from her constituency, what happened she was admonished and guess what promoted. Now she just this type of favor / money extracting from her home and country club. Still what cases are tainted by this judge? What a joke. SHE IS NOT THE ONLY ONE. You had a iron clad case here in Suffolk County against Neal Trabich of Global Golf, Bribing legislator (Former Suffolk County Legislator Allan Binder), falsifying business records and more, what happened to Trabich 3 months jail. Makes you wonder when a 2-5 year sentence gets reduced to a mere fraction because of the old wealth factor. What about Binder, joke of no penalty at all. In fact Trabich and his wife ran a healthcare company, bribed doctors to write oxygen scripts to people who did not need, ever investigated, nope quashed.

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106. DWH  
McLeod  
August 27th, 2011  
7:52 pm
- It's always interesting to see a commission making these decisions. Why not provide a complete rundown of the payment package (salary, ALL benefits and time actually worked) - and then let the people of NY vote on it.

P.S. The reason this isn't done is because it would be voted down with gusto! This raises the question of why our government is no longer answerable to the people.

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107. Andrew  
Cambridge,  
Massachusetts  
August 28th, 2011  
8:00 am
- What givebacks were the judges required to agree to for this raise? Oh yeah none! Were some of their benefits reduced? Again no. As another reader commented the sacrifice that is called for by many politicians is

only for those at the bottom. this is another example of that. Sacrifice is for those at the bottom, tax cuts and salary increases are for those at the top. This is what makes America the greatest country in the world!

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