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TODAY'S NEWS

Update

Governor Pataki's screening panel for the First Department has approved three of five candidates it interviewed last month for consideration for two Appellate Division vacancies, sources report. In addition, the 13-member panel has voted to interview on Thursday one more candidate, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Barry A. Cozier. The three candidates whose names will be forwarded to the Governor are Justices Herman Cahn, Stephen Crane and Charles Ramos. The names of candidates not forwarded are Justices Bertram Katz and Jacqueline Silbermann. Meanwhile, Queens Supreme Court Administrative Judge Alfred D. Lerner, who is being interviewed by the Appellate Division screening panel in the Second Department, could be considered for the First Department, sources report. Unlike the other candidates, Justice Lerner is a Republican.

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