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NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2000

TODAY'S NEWS

Update

The New York State Bar Association yesterday found all seven candidates for the Court of Appeals well-qualified to succeed Judge Joseph W. Bellacosa on New York's highest court. Its evaluation was the last outstanding report on the candidates by a major bar group. Previously, the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York had given all the potential nominees their highest rating. The New York State Trial Lawyers Association rated four of the candidates as "highly recommended" (Justice Stephen G. Crane of Manhattan; Justice Victoria A. Graffeo of the Appellate Division, Third Department; Justice Richard T. Andrias of the Appellate Division, First Department; and Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Juanita Bing Newton) and three as "recommended" (Justice Steven W. Fisher of Queens; Presiding Justice Susan Phillips Read of the Court of Claims; and former State Bar Association President James C. Moore, a partner at Harter, Secrest & Emery in Rochester). Governor Pataki will name a new judge by Nov. 3.

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