



# PRESS RELEASE

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**New York State  
Unified Court System**

**Hon. Lawrence K. Marks  
Chief Administrative Judge**

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## **NYC Criminal Court's Chief Clerk to Receive Prestigious Warren E. Burger Award for Excellence in Court Administration**

**New York City**—Justin Barry, who has served the New York City Criminal Court with distinction for the past 18 years, assuming the position of Chief Clerk in 2010, is the 2019 recipient of the National Center for State Courts' prestigious Warren E. Burger Award for Excellence in Court Administration.

The annual award is inspired by the late Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, who was instrumental in founding the National Center for State Courts and a staunch supporter of its mission to improve court administration through leadership and service. The award recognizes a court professional who has significantly contributed to improving the administration of the state courts while demonstrating leadership, integrity, creativity and sound judgment.

As Chief Clerk, Mr. Barry is the highest ranking non-judicial official in New York City Criminal Court—the nation’s largest criminal court—which processes some 300,000 new cases annually. He is responsible for preparing and implementing the Court’s annual multi-million-dollar budget, managing day-to-day court operations and supervising over 1,300 employees throughout the five boroughs of New York City. He also assists the Court’s Administrative Judge with policy matters, among other duties.

Mr. Barry has played a critical role in implementing the Chief Judge’s Excellence Initiative in the New York City Criminal Court, with his strong leadership—and unparalleled operational knowledge and skills—contributing greatly to the Court’s dramatic success in reducing case backlogs, increasing trial capacity and improving disposition times. Additionally, in his capacity as Chief Clerk, Mr. Barry has instituted innovative operational and policy reforms that have modernized the New York City Criminal Court and strengthened the criminal justice system.

“On behalf of our entire court family, I congratulate Justin Barry on this richly deserved honor. His contributions have had a positive impact on the New York City Criminal Court and our criminal justice system. No one works harder to achieve excellence in court operations—or cares more about the fairness, efficiency and quality of the criminal justice process—than Mr. Barry,” said Chief Judge Janet DiFiore.

“I have the highest regard for Justin Barry, who, as the top non-judicial officer for New York City Criminal Court—which is open 16 hours a day, 365 days a year—is always available to troubleshoot any issues that arise. Over the course of his stellar court career, Mr. Barry has led the implementation of problem-solving courts, and instituted major improvements in the processing and adjudication of New York City’s tens of thousands of summonses for quality-of-life offenses, among his many other achievements,” said Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence K. Marks.

“Justin Barry is an incredibly astute, highly efficient and capable administrator, committed to the work and mission of New York City’s Criminal Court. His leadership has been essential to the Court’s success,” said New York City Criminal Court Administrative Judge Tamiko Amaker.

“Justin Barry is an exceptional leader, possessing vision, knowledge and determination to make a difference and improve the administration of justice. He has effectively served the New York City Criminal Court, implementing numerous innovative programs that improve lives,” said Mary McQueen, President of the National Center for State Courts. “He is, and has been for many years, the person whom judges and other leaders in that court turn to when they need solutions to problems and improvements to operations. He is very deserving of the Burger Award.”

Mr. Barry will be presented with the award in New York City in the coming weeks.

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