



SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON EQUAL JUSTICE IN THE COURTS

On October 1, 2020, the Report of the Special Adviser on Equal Justice in the Courts (“EJIC Report”) was issued following a comprehensive review of racial bias in the New York State court system commissioned by Chief Judge DiFiore. The EJIC Report contained a set of practical recommendations aimed at advancing diversity and inclusion within the court system, enhancing trust between the court and the community, and ensuring equal justice under the law. Hon. Edwina G. Mendelson, the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives for the New York State Unified Court System, subsequently issued a Strategic Plan to implement the recommendations contained in the EJIC Report. In response to these findings, the 6th Judicial District established the District Administrative Judge’s Committee on Equal Justice in the Courts. The Committee, which is comprised of a diverse array of judges, court personnel and members of the legal community, will work to ensure that the significant concerns identified in the EJIC Report are addressed within the 6th Judicial District. The Committee is charged with issuing recommendations to the District Administrative Judge regarding implementing the EJIC Report recommendations at the local level focusing on areas such as educational initiatives, transparency on matters of race and racial bias, proposals for new local policies and protocols, and opportunities to work jointly with bar associations and other community stakeholders towards common goals. The work of the Committee will help ensure that all who work and participate in our courts are treated with equal dignity and respect.