

MBA NEWS



20 West Street, Boston, MA 02111-1204 • communications@massbar.org

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CONTACT:

Jennifer Rosinski (617) 338-0675

Tricia M. Oliver (617) 338-0677

MBA CONGRATULATES THE HON. MARGOT G. BOTSFORD ON APPOINTMENT TO THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT

JOINT BAR COMMITTEE WAS ONE OF THE LAST LAYERS OF REVIEW

BOSTON, Mass. — The MBA congratulates the Hon. Margot G. Botsford on her appointment today to the Supreme Judicial Court. Botsford will bring her keen intellect and superior work history to a post she well deserves.

“Justice Margot Botsford’s appointment today to the Supreme Judicial Court will serve to enhance the outstanding reputation of our state’s highest court. Justice Botsford is respected amongst peer jurists and attorneys from throughout the commonwealth because of her thoughtful approach to cases, exemplary work ethic and high intelligence,” MBA President Mark D Mason said. “I am certain Justice Botsford will maintain her unfailing commitment to the administration of justice. The MBA congratulates Justice Botsford on her esteemed appointment.”

Botsford’s appointment follows a thorough review, which included an evaluation by the Joint Bar Committee on Judicial Appointment. The committee is comprised of two dozen attorneys from across the state which reviews, evaluates, votes and reports on the qualifications of individuals under consideration for judicial appointments – including clerk-magistrates – to all courts of the commonwealth.

“We’re trying to ensure only qualified, competent judges are selected. It’s a role committee members take very seriously,” said MBA General Counsel Martin W. Healy, who serves as the committee’s executive secretary. “Ultimately it benefits the public. These are public appointments with life tenure.”

The committee, which began its formal role in 1961, is an independent entity and its votes are kept confidential. The committee considers several aspects of an individual before it takes a vote and submits a report to the governor and/or the Governor’s Council, which must approve and appoint the candidate. Among the qualities considered are integrity, reputation, knowledge and ability in the field of law, professional experience, judicial temperament, financial responsibility and commitment to public service.

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.