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## **Justice Spina’s Measured Approach, Role as Judicial Ambassador Lauded by Massachusetts Bar Association**

BOSTON, Mass. — The Massachusetts Bar Association (MBA) has issued a statement in reaction to the news that Supreme Judicial Court Justice Francis X. Spina has announced his retirement from the court, effective August 12, 2016.

“The Hon. Francis X. Spina has lived up to his reputation as an independent thinker and scholarly judge who stands strong for the unique safeguards the Massachusetts Constitution affords its citizens,” said MBA Chief Legal Counsel Martin W. Healy. “Justice Spina’s measured approach to each case before him distinguished his work throughout his tenure.”

Noting that Spina is a former secretary of the Massachusetts Bar Association, Healy added: “Justice Spina shunned the celebrity that often comes with his status on the commonwealth’s top court, but he never turned down an opportunity to spend time with lawyers and give back to the profession. The legal community has benefited immensely by Justice Spina’s outreach as an ambassador between bench and bar, which mirrored the collegial approach for which he was known when he was a practicing lawyer.”

*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.*