



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Judge Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick Joins Board of the National Center for Law and Economic Justice**

The National Center for Law and Economic Justice is pleased to announce that Judge Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick has been elected to its Board of Directors. Judge Ciparick, now of counsel to Greenberg Traurig, LLP, recently retired after serving for 19 years as an Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals of the State of New York.

“We are delighted and honored that Judge Ciparick, a thoughtful and inspiring jurist for so many years, a proponent of effective civil legal services for those unable to afford a lawyer, and a wonderful human being, will be joining our Board of Directors,” said Henry Freedman, NCLEJ Executive Director, upon announcing her election.

Freedman added that Judge Ciparick’s lifelong commitment to increasing access to the courts for people of limited means is consistent with NCLEJ’s mission to advance the cause of economic justice for low-income families, individuals, and communities throughout the country through ground-breaking, successful litigation and policy advocacy.

Judge Ciparick began her legal career with the Legal Aid Society. Before joining the Court of Appeals, she held a number of positions of public service, including Judge of the Criminal Court of the City of New York and Justice of the New York State Supreme Court. She was the first Hispanic member of the Court of Appeals, and the recipient of countless awards and honors, including the 2012 Judith S. Kaye Access to Justice Award from the Women’s Bar Association of the State of New York. She is currently a member of Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman’s Task Force to Expand Access to Civil Legal Services in New York, and, most recently, was appointed co-chair of the New York State Justice Task Force formed by Chief Judge Lippman to examine the causes of wrongful convictions.

NCLEJ has provided legal representation, support, and advice to people living in poverty and their advocates since 1965. In 1970, it secured the landmark Supreme Court due process decision in *Goldberg v. Kelly*, which continues to serve as a key precedent for its litigation. Since 1995 NCLEJ has been supported entirely by private funding. NCLEJ’s Board of Directors includes lawyers from more than a dozen major New York City law firms, corporate general counsel, and low-income community representatives from around the country.