



CATHERINE SLIWINSKI

Unified Court System

Catherine (Cathy) Sliwinski is a Principal Court Attorney -Trial Part for one of the four Family Court Judges in Albany County Family Court, a position she has held since 1998. When families breakup and experience trauma and conflict, family court is often the place of last resort for help in resolving what is often the unresolvable. As Principal Court Attorney, her responsibilities include researching and analyzing complex legal issues, drafting written opinions, decisions and orders, and advising the judge on reasonable options for the families and children who come before the court. As a member of the Adoption Task Force, she worked with State and local agencies to address barriers to adoption for children languishing in foster care in Albany County, which resulted in improved processes and cooperation between agencies and the court, and a significant reduction in the number of children waiting for permanent homes.

Outside of work, Cathy is a social runner who has been involved in the running community for over 25 years as a coach, mentor, and race director. She is a member of the board of Homeless and Travelers Aid Society of the Capital District, Inc. and is its current Board President, and was a member of the board for the Hudson Mohawk Road Runners Club. For the past 15 years, she has served as a panel member of the Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs (Surrogate Decision-Making Committee). She earned her BS from Siena College and JD from Western New England School of Law. She is the mother of two daughters and has been happily married for 36 years.