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New York County Lawyers Association Proposes Creation of Statewide Bar Leader Taskforce to Recommend Clear Process for Lieutenant Gubernatorial Succession.

April 27, 2022 New York, New York – The New York County Lawyers Association (NYCLA) has issued a report calling on the New York State Bar Association to establish a blue-ribbon Task Force consisting of respected leaders from bar associations around the state, as well as academics and stakeholders to study, investigate and make recommendations for appropriate legislation to establish a clear and transparent statutory Lieutenant Gubernatorial succession process.

As noted in NYCLA’s report, “The recent indictment and resignation of former New York Lieutenant Governor Brian Benjamin puts the spotlight on a critical flaw in New York’s Constitution and its statutory regime: neither contains a provision explicitly dealing with the replacement of a Lieutenant Governor who is unable to complete his or her term... This is the second time in recent years that a Lieutenant Governor has succeeded a Governor and has then appointed a successor Lieutenant Governor with little, if any, transparency, and no advice and consent by the legislature or approval by the electorate. The time has come to address this serious flaw.”

Vincent T. Chang, NYCLA President, said, “NYCLA believes that a statutory framework would be preferable and would align New York with the procedure of a majority of states. That framework may include a special election for voters to choose the Lieutenant Governor, nomination by the Governor and advice and consent from the legislature, or it may provide an alternative method for succession. Our goal is to make the process transparent, provide reasonable vetting, and avoid long term vacancies in an essential position such as Lieutenant Governor.”

To read the report, click [here](#).

About the New York County Lawyers Association

The New York County Lawyers Association (www.nycla.org) was founded in 1908 as one of the first major bar associations in the country that admitted members without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, or gender. Since its inception, it has pioneered some of the most far-reaching and tangible reforms in American jurisprudence. For more information on NYCLA please visit nycla.org.