

An Affiliate of the National Bar Association

Garden State Bar Association

African American Lawyers for Justice



GARDEN STATE BAR ASSOCIATION MEDIA RELEASE

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GARDEN STATE BAR ASSOCIATION ADOPTS RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY - The Garden State Bar Association (GSBA), representing African-American attorneys committed to advancing the science of jurisprudence and improving the administration of justice, adopted a resolution supporting the independence of the State's judges and judicial candidates and the re-nomination of Supreme Court Associate Justice Barry T. Albin.

In its Resolution, GSBA recognized the State constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the judiciary. Moreover, GSBA expressed its support for a thorough evaluation of the fitness of judicial nominees.

However, GSBA indicated that the "strength of our judiciary is best served by insulating those serving on the bench from the politics that may underlie the executive and legislative branches."

GSBA, therefore, resolved that judicial candidates, in particular, Justice Albin, should undergo an evaluation that is studious, fair and nonpartisan, based solely on whether the judge or candidate has demonstrated the intellectual ability, integrity and judicial demeanor to serve in judicial office without regard to philosophical differences and with due respect for judicial independence.

In adopting this Resolution, GSBA joins ranks with the New Jersey State Bar Association which adopted a similar resolution on May 13, 2009.

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