

Hon. Samuel L. Green received his law degree from the SUNY Buffalo Law School and practiced law in Buffalo until his appointment to Buffalo City Court in 1973. Canisius College awarded him an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree for his outstanding work on that court. In November 1978 he was the first black elected to New York State Supreme Court outside New York City. Justice Green was designated an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department, on February 25, 1983 by Governor Mario Cuomo. He was the first black appointed to that court, and he went on to become the longest-serving Justice in its history. He was recommended by the Commission on Judicial Nomination to the New York State Court of Appeals four times, and was designated by Chief Judge Kaye to sit on the Court of Appeals in June 2002. Justice Green is a lifetime member of the NAACP and the Buffalo Urban League. He was a founding member of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York and an original member of the New York State Judicial Commission on Minorities (now The Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission). His numerous awards include Lifetime Achievement awards from the Minority Bar Association of Western New York and the Rochester Black Bar Association, the Outstanding Jurist Award from the Erie County Bar Association and the Edwin F. Jaekle Award, the highest honor bestowed by SUNY Buffalo Law School. Following his retirement at the end of 2011, a scholarship fund was established in his honor at SUNY Buffalo Law School. On January 24, 2012, as a tribute to Justice Green's many years of service to the court and the legal community, the Samuel L. Green Courtroom was dedicated at the courthouse of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department.



HON. ROSE H. SCONIERS,
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE NEW YORK STATE
SUPREME COURT APPELLATE DIVISION,
FOURTH DEPARTMENT

Hon. Rose H. Sconiers was designated as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department, by Governor David A. Patterson on February 1, 2010. She was elected to the New York State Supreme Court in 1993 and re-elected in 2007. She is a former Judge of The City Court of Buffalo; former Executive Attorney of The Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc., former Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Buffalo and a 1973 graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law. She was admitted to the State Bar in 1974 and to the U.S. Federal District Court in 1975. In addition, she is admitted to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Justice Sconiers was appointed by Chief Judge Jonathan Upman in 2009 to Chair the statewide Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission on Minorities.

Justice Sconiers is the former President of The Association of Justices of The Supreme Court of The State of New York, former Presiding member of the Judicial Council of The New York State Bar Association and a Past President of the University of Buffalo Law Alumni Association.

Justice Sconiers is the recipient of many honors and awards, including among others, The University of Buffalo Law Alumni Association Distinguished Alumna Award. She was inducted into the Western New York Women's Hall of Fame in 2001. She received the 2008 Outstanding Jurist Award from the Bar Association of Erie County and was honored as the 2011 Lawyer of the Year by the Women Lawyers of Western New York. She also received the 2013 Bridge Builders Award from The Rochester Black Bar Association.

Justice Sconiers is married to Attorney, Lester G. Sconiers and the mother of a daughter, Lisa Rose, a son, Lester, Jr., and a grandson, Julian Alexander.