

**IN SUPPORT OF MAURA KENNEDY-SMITH FOR JUDGE
TOMPKINS COUNTY FAMILY, COUNTY, AND SURROGATE'S COURT**

As attorneys who practice in Tompkins County, we write to publicly lend our enthusiastic support to Judge Maura Kennedy-Smith's candidacy for judge of Tompkins County Family, County, and Surrogate's Court. Judge Kennedy-Smith is a graduate of Ithaca High School, Cornell (B.A.) and the New York University School of Law. Tompkins County has been her professional home for the past 23 years. After graduating from law school in 1998, she practiced law for 15 years as a seasoned litigator and appellate attorney, primarily representing low-income children, families, criminal defendants, and other under-represented groups. For the past 10 years, she has served as Principal Court Attorney to Judge Joseph R. Cassidy in Tompkins County Court. In that role, she has written hundreds of decisions which are known for adherence to the law and being concise, clear, and correct. She has unparalleled knowledge of every area of the law in Tompkins County Courts and the ability to manage the thousands of cases in Family Court, Criminal Court, and Surrogate's Court. Since January 2019, she has also served as the Lansing Town Justice (currently in her second term) in one of Tompkins County's busiest town courts. Most importantly, Judge Kennedy-Smith has always treated everyone with fairness, dignity, and respect. Judge Kennedy-Smith has earned our support by demonstrating that she has the work ethic, temperament, intelligence, experience, and judgment necessary to be a highly effective and fair Tompkins County Judge.

We, the undersigned attorneys, know Judge Kennedy-Smith's work as an attorney in our community and enthusiastically support her candidacy. We urge all Tompkins County voters to vote for her for Tompkins County Judge.

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Hon. M. John Sherman
(retired Tompkins County
Judge)

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