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### **Judge Rodwin Receives Endorsements of Police Groups and Western New York Unions**

Erie County Family Court Judge Lisa Bloch Rodwin added to her string of recent endorsements after receiving the support of the Buffalo Central Labor Council of the AFL-CIO and the Buffalo Police Benevolent Association. She previously received endorsements from the Cheektowaga Police Club, the Cheektowaga Police Captain and Lieutenants Association, the West Seneca Police Club, in addition to the endorsements of area trade unions, including the United Auto Workers, Buffalo Building and Construction Trades Council and local chapters of the Communication Workers of America, and Painters and Allied Trades Unions, as well as the Buffalo Teachers Federation,.

Widely known as a national expert on family violence issues, Judge Rodwin has instructed members of law enforcement agencies across Erie County on child abuse and domestic violence law, and she has created a course for the Erie County Police Academy and authoring a coursebook on family violence. She was rated "Highly Qualified" by the Governor's Judicial Selection Committee, "Well Qualified" by the Erie County Bar Association, and has been endorsed by the Democratic, Conservative, Independence, and Working Families Parties. Her work with the Family Justice Center led the Buffalo News to give her the Founders' Award.

Judge Rodwin expressed her appreciation for having received the recent endorsements. "Our teachers are fighting on the front lines for our children. I am honored to have the support of the Buffalo Teachers Federation, along with the AFL-CIO, UAW, and every Western New York union that has made an endorsement in this race."

Judge Rodwin was equally appreciative of the endorsement from the Buffalo Police Benevolent Association. "In 1995, when I started as chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau, there were 15 domestic violence homicides a year," Judge Rodwin said. "As of today, there has been one DV homicide in the last two years. The men and women of the Buffalo Police and law enforcement officers from all around Erie Country have made that dramatic decrease possible.

"I have tremendous respect for the Buffalo PBA and the selfless work of its members, and the endorsement means a great deal to me," she added.

Formerly chief of the Domestic Violence Unit at the Erie County District Attorney's office, Judge Rodwin appeared on *Oprah* three times last year to address universal concerns including domestic violence and child abuse. Several of her cases received prominent attention in local and national news coverage, including a case in which the defendant, Ulner Lee Still, was sentenced to 36 years in jail for repeated assaults on his wife, some of which he forced his son to videotape. The sentence was the longest in New York State history for a domestic violence crime that was not a homicide.

Judge Rodwin has served on the Family Court bench since her appointment by Governor Paterson last spring. She is running for a full term in the county-wide primary on Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.