

HON. EDWIN I. NOVILLO
ACTING JUSTICE, SUPERVISING JUDGE OF QUEENS COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

New York State Unified Court System

Acting Justice, Supervising Judge of Queens County Criminal Court February 2025 – Present

Acting Justice, Queens Supreme Court, Criminal Term January 2024 – February 2025

Judge, Criminal Court of the City of New York January 2019 – December 2023
Queens County Criminal Court (January 2021 – December 2023)
Kings County Criminal Court (January 2019 – January 2021)

Judge, Interim Civil Court of the City of New York February 2018 – December 2018
Served in Kings County Criminal Court

As Supervising Judge of Queens Criminal Court, I oversee and manage all aspects of court operations while presiding over multiple parts, including All-Purpose Felony Waiver Parts, Trial Readiness Parts, and the Standards and Goals Part. Serving as an Acting Justice, I adjudicate felony motions and conduct hearings and trials while previously having been the presiding judge over the Queens Gun Waiver Part. My judicial responsibilities include handling misdemeanor and felony arraignments, evidentiary hearings, trials, and cases involving Superior Court Information pleas and indictment pleas. In 2023, I resolved the highest number of cases by plea in New York State. I efficiently conference older cases to reduce backlogs, facilitate just outcomes, and expedite matters to trial. Additionally, I preside over preliminary hearings, review and issue search and arrest warrants, and render well-reasoned legal decisions. I play a key role in training newly assigned judges to ensure consistency in legal application and courtroom procedures and have developed standardized scripts for plea allocutions and confidential informant search warrant examinations, as well as created a Universal Conditional Plea Action Sheet now widely used across multiple counties in New York City.

The Legal Aid Society

Senior Staff Attorney, Criminal Defense Practice, Queens County August 2005 - February 2018
Staff Attorney, Criminal Defense Practice, Kings County September 2003 - August 2005

Handled a full caseload of felony and misdemeanor cases from arraignment through trial. Responsibilities included client counseling, conducting thorough arraignment interviews, preparing motions, and engaging in plea negotiations. Made bail applications, prepared clients for Grand Jury presentations, and conducted and supervised case investigations. Evaluated clients' mental health needs, referred them for appropriate treatment, and coordinated social work intervention. Ensured clients received adequate pretrial services and prepared pre-sentencing reports. Delivered opening and closing arguments, conducted jury selection, direct and cross-examinations of witnesses, and prepared witnesses for pretrial hearings and trials. Mentored junior attorneys on trial strategies and courtroom etiquette while supervising legal and investigative interns. Maintained strong working relationships with Assistant District Attorneys, Judges, and court personnel.

The Legal Aid Society

Legal Intern, Criminal Defense Practice, Queens County Summer of 2002

Investigative Intern, Criminal Defense Practice, Queens County Summer of 2001

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND BOARD SERVICE

Board of Trustees for the Queens Supreme Court Law Library April 2026 – Present
Board Member

The Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision July 2024 - Present
State Council – Judicial Representative
(Gubernatorial Appointment, per recommendation of Chief Judge of the NYS Court of Appeals)

Latino Judges Association June 2023 - Present
Board of Directors, Recording Secretary

Latino Lawyers Association of Queens County August 2018 - 2024
Advisory Board Member

Association of Legal Aid Attorneys (ALAA) October 2014 – February 2018
Executive Board, Alternate Vice President

EDUCATION

**TOURO COLLEGE,
JACOB D. FUCHSBERG LAW CENTER, Huntington, NY** August 2000 - May 2003
Juris Doctorate

Awarded the Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center's Public Interest Fellowship in 2001 and 2002

JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, New York, NY August 1996 - January 2000
Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies

Summa Cum Laude; Overall GPA: 3.906 / 4.0

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Member, Association of Judges of the Criminal Court of the City of New York
Member, Latino Judges Association & Board of Directors
Member, Queens County Bar Association
Member, Latino Lawyers Association of Queens County
Member, Queens County Women's Bar Association
Member, Puerto Rican Bar Association

AWARDS

"Justice in Action" Recognition, issued by New York State Governor Kathy Hochul - 2025
Citation from the Office of the Mayor of New York City, issued by Mayor Eric Adams – August 2025
Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, issued by United States Congresswoman Grace Meng - 2024
Proclamation from New York State Assembly, issued by NYS Assembly member Catalina Cruz – 2024
Proclamation from New York State Assembly, issued by NYS Assembly member Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas – 2024
Citation from New York City Council, issued by NYC Councilmember Shekar Krishnan – 2024
Citation from New York City Council, issued by NYC Councilmember Francisco Moya – 2024

BAR ADMISSIONS & LANGUAGES

Admitted to practice in the State of New York – Retired from the Practice of Law
Fluent in the reading, writing and speaking of Spanish