



TOWN OF OSSINING

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Judge Edwin Shapiro to Retire After 31 Years of Service

(February 9, 2011) The Honorable Edwin Shapiro, Senior Ossining Town Justice has announced his retirement from the court effective March 15, 2011. Judge Shapiro has served for over 31 years and recently celebrated his 80th birthday.

“I have been honored to serve the citizens of the Ossining-Briarcliff community as their Town Justice for more than three decades but now the time has come for me to spend more quality time with my wife, children, and grandchildren,” said Judge Shapiro.

“I will sincerely miss serving the court as it has been an extremely rewarding experience for me and I hope also for most of those who have appeared before the court. I have tried to administer and apply the law with fairness and justice for all those who have appeared before me. I have often been told by grievants that even though they may have lost their case, they felt that they were treated fairly and with respect by the court,” he added.

“I am particularly pleased that many of my decisions have been published in the official New York State law reports and cited as ‘Decisions of Interest’ in the New York Law Journal during my tenure. Other officers of the court have cited them in legal matters throughout the State.”

“I have been an early proponent of alternatives to incarceration and, in landlord – tenant proceedings, always tried to keep people in their homes rather than evicting them by employing creative arrangements that were not unfair to landlords, Judge Shapiro stated. “I would rather have put someone in jail than separate a family from its home, he added.

Judge Shapiro is a graduate of Trinity College, where he was editor-in-chief of the student newspaper, and of Harvard Law School, where he was a member of Chancery Club and a team finalist in the renowned Ames Competition.

Former Ossining Town Supervisor and County Legislator Richard Wishnie stated, “Judge Edwin Shapiro has had a long, distinguished and honorable career as an Ossining Town Justice and will certainly be missed by

the grateful citizens of our community. Judge Shapiro has been a model for how a local court should be administered and I hope that those that may follow him will emulate his extraordinary professional demeanor.” Wishnie added: “I have known Ed and his wife Sandy for nearly forty years and it certainly is a blessing that they can now enjoy the years ahead with their family and friends in a well deserved healthy and happy retirement.”

Town Supervisor Catherine Borgia said, “The Town Board is very grateful to Judge Shapiro for his many years of dedicated service to the Ossining community. We wish him the very best in his retirement.”

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