

CHARLIE BAKER
Governor



KARYN POLITO
Lt. Governor

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Governor Baker Nominates Attorneys Diane R. Rubin and Jennifer S.D. Roberts to the Land Court

BOSTON – Today, Governor Charlie Baker nominated attorneys Diane R. Rubin and Jennifer S.D. Roberts to the positions of Associate Justices of the Land Court. Attorney Rubin has 32 years of condominium, construction, real estate and arbitration/mediation experience and Attorney Roberts has practiced law for 38 years in the areas of real estate, construction, easement, condominium and land conservation.

Rubin and Roberts, if confirmed by the Governor's Council, will fill the vacancies created by retiring Justice Karyn F. Scheier and by Justice Judith C. Cutler. Justice Scheier was appointed in 1994 by Governor William Weld and served as the Chief of the Land Court from 2003 to 2013; Justice Cutler was appointed in 2009 by Governor Deval Patrick and has served as Chief of the Land Court since 2013.

"I am pleased to nominate these two qualified professionals to serve on the Land Court," **said Governor Charlie Baker**. "Attorneys Diane Rubin and Jennifer Roberts bring significant and broad experience in land use matters and if confirmed, I am confident they will serve the court well."

"Attorneys Rubin and Roberts have extensive and varied real estate, land use, condominium and litigation experience that will complement the current Land Court bench," **said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito**. "I am pleased to submit their names to the Governor's Council for their advice and consent."

The Land Court Department has statewide jurisdiction with seven authorized judicial positions. The Massachusetts Trial Court includes seven court departments with 385

judges who deliver justice in 99 courthouses across the state.

Judicial nominations are subject to the advice and consent of the Governor's Council. Applicants for judicial openings are reviewed by the Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) and recommended to the governor. Governor Baker established the JNC in February 2015 pursuant to Executive Order 558, a non-partisan, non-political Commission composed of volunteers from a cross-section of the Commonwealth's diverse population to screen judicial applications. Twenty-one members were later appointed to the JNC in April 2015.

About Diane R. Rubin:

Since 2008, Diane R. Rubin has been a Partner in Real Estate Development at Prince Lobel Tye LLP in Boston, where she focuses on litigation and transactional drafting in real estate, condominium governance, construction, lease disputes and government procurements. In 2008, she also joined the Real Estate Bar Association where she founded and now Co-Chairs the Condominium Law and Practice Section. She is currently the Real Estate Bar Association President and has served on the Board of Directors for eight years and the Executive Committee for five years. From 2000-2001, Rubin was an Associate at Mahoney Hawkes & Goldings in Boston before serving as an Associate and as Partner at Holland & Knight from 2001 to 2008, counseling and litigating for condominium associations and developers and lead litigation counsel for cases involving land use and permitting, boundary and easement disputes. She was responsible for all turnpike litigation as Associate General Counsel to the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority from 1997-2000. Rubin was previously an Associate in litigation at Goldstein & Manello in Boston, responsible for cases in a variety of fields including real estate, intellectual property, personal injury and criminal complaints. She began her legal career as Assistant General Counsel to the Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare in 1985, handling business aspects of governmental operations and benefits. Rubin graduated magna cum laude from Brandeis University in 1981 and received her juris doctor from Boston University Law School in 1985. Since 2014, she has served as the Co-Chair of Brandeis University's Women's Studies Research Center Advisory Board and also serves on the Board of Caritas Communities, an affordable housing non-profit.

About Jennifer S.D. Roberts:

Since 2006, Jennifer S.D. Roberts has served as Of Counsel for LaTanzi, Spalding & Landreth in Orleans, representing clients in the Land Court, Superior Court, Probate Court and state appellate courts on matters including construction defects, easement rights and probate litigation. Prior to her time at LaTanzi, Spalding & Landreth, Roberts spent 10 years independently representing clients in similar cases, as well as in cases of minority shareholder freeze-outs, professional malpractice, will disputes and guardianship and trust disputes, after serving as Of Counsel at Bianchi & Paquin from 1993-1996. As Litigation Associate at Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster in Boston from 1985-1990, Roberts served as second chair in the two-week jury trial and principal author of the briefs in the Land Court and before the Supreme Judicial Court

in a case regarding condominium common areas. Roberts became Partner at Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster in 1990 and represented real estate parties including an insurance company in litigation to resolve issues of insurance coverage for remediation, a commercial building owner against an engineering firm and manufacturer, and actions alleging fraud in the sale of a commercial building and against the developer of a series of condominium developments. She served as Civil Litigation Associate at Gaston Snow & Ely Bartlett from 1983-1985 and at Chadbourne Park in New York City from 1980 -1983. Roberts graduated cum laude from Bryn Mawr College in 1977 and received her juris doctor cum laude from Boston University School of Law in 1980.

Beyond her professional career, Roberts served on the Board of Directors of The Cape Cod Foundation, a Barnstable County-based foundation devoted to fostering philanthropy on Cape Cod, from 1999-2007 and again from 2010-2014. Additionally, she served on the Board of Directors of Cape Cod Health Care Inc. from 1999-2008, and served on the Board of Directors and as Assistant Treasurer for the Visiting Nurse Association of Cape Cod from 1994-2008. From 1998-2006, Roberts held multiple positions within the Barnstable County Bar Association, progressing from Seminar Committee Chair from 1998-2000 to President in 2003. Roberts completed training as a mediator in 2017 and volunteers as a mediator for Cape Mediation in the Barnstable County district courts.

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