

Janet DiFiore

District Attorney, Westchester County

District Attorney Janet DiFiore has dedicated her career to public service as both a former Judge and a prosecutor in Westchester County, New York.

Elected as District Attorney in 2005 and re-elected in 2009 and 2013, District Attorney DiFiore is the County's chief law enforcement officer of Westchester County, New York. Her 238 person office includes 119 Assistant District Attorneys, 34 Investigators and 85 support personnel. Together they prosecute approximately 40,000 cases each year.

District Attorney DiFiore served as an Assistant District Attorney in Westchester County for more than ten years, and as Chief of Narcotics for the last four and a half of those years. As Chief of Narcotics, she coordinated drug enforcement and prosecution efforts within Westchester County on behalf of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

Elected as a Judge of the Westchester County Court in 1998 and as a Justice of the New York State Supreme Court in 2002, District Attorney DiFiore presided over hundreds of cases in Westchester County Court, Family Court and the New York State Supreme Court. In 2003, District Attorney DiFiore was appointed by Chief Judge Judith Kaye to serve as the Supervising Judge for the Criminal Courts in the 9th Judicial District, with oversight responsibility of the criminal courts of Westchester, Dutchess, Orange, Rockland and Putnam Counties. She served as Supervising Judge until May of 2005 when she resigned from the bench in order to run for District Attorney.

District Attorney DiFiore has initiated policies and programs at the District Attorney's Office that have enhanced prosecutions and improved public safety. In response to the longstanding critical need for more effective coordination among Westchester's 42 local police departments and county, state and federal law enforcement agencies, District Attorney DiFiore led the development of the Westchester Intelligence Center, which provides technological resources, data analysis and coordination to support these agencies.

Working with partners from County and local government and child advocacy agencies, the District Attorney led the effort to create the Child Fatality Review Team, the Multidisciplinary Team and the Child Advocacy Center. Together, they provide systematic analysis of child fatalities and risks to children's health and safety, and investigate cases of child abuse through multi-disciplinary teams that achieve the most effective and compassionate results.

The District Attorney was a partner in the creation of Westchester's Family Justice Center, a comprehensive facility for services for victims of domestic violence and their families. Sharpening the Office's approach to violent felonies, District Attorney DiFiore established the Violent Felony Screening Protocol, a system of early review of violent

felony cases by a Deputy Division Chief to assess the legal and factual issues and seek to enhance the prosecution of such cases.

In 2009, District Attorney DiFiore was appointed by Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman to serve as Co-Chair of the New York State Justice Task Force, a permanent body created to examine the causes of wrongful convictions, make recommendations for reform, and monitor the effectiveness of any reform that is implemented. The membership of the Justice Task Force consists of judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, law enforcement personnel, legal scholars, legislators, executive branch officials, victim advocates, and forensic experts. The Task Force has issued two reports to date, *Recommendations Regarding Forensics and the Expansion of the DNA Database* and *Recommendations for Improving Eyewitness Identifications*.

District Attorney DiFiore has served on then-Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Commission on the Future of Criminal Indigent Defense Services and Commission on Drugs and Courts. In addition, she has served as the New York State Unified Court System's Coordinator for Access to Justice Initiatives for the 9th Judicial District, and as a member of the Office of Court Administration's Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions, the Task Force on the Future of Probation in New York State and the New York State Motor Vehicle Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Board.

District Attorney DiFiore serves on numerous boards that deal with criminal justice issues in Westchester County, including the Westchester County Criminal Justice Advisory Board, the Westchester County Domestic Violence Council, the Task Force on the Future of Probation in New York State, and the CLUSTER/Restorative Justice Advisory Board.

She is also Co-Chair of the Grievances/Ethics Committee of the Westchester Women's Bar Association, and serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Columbian Lawyers Association of Westchester County and the New York State Bar Association Task Force on Wrongful Convictions. District Attorney DiFiore is on the Board of Visitors at Pace University School of Law and on the Advisory Council of Mercy College School of Social and Behavioral Science. She serves on the Advisory Board of the Westchester Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center, and is a member of the Greyston Foundation's Wisdom Council.

Recent honors include in 2011 the Distinguished Alumnae Award from the Women's Law Society of St. John's Law School and in 2010, the "Spirit of Giving" Community Service Award at the Lois Bronz Children's Center's Annual Gala and the Star of Hope Award from the Westchester Region of Hadassah.

District Attorney DiFiore has lectured, both in New York and abroad, to judges and lawyers about domestic violence, the effects of domestic violence on children, ethics, and problem-solving courts and effective case management techniques.

She is a lifelong Westchester County resident and is married to Dennis E. Glazer, a partner at the law firm of Davis Polk & Wardwell. They have three children.