NEW YORK STATE
Unified Court System
OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION

LAWRENCE K. MARKS
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

JOHN W. MCCONNELL, ESQ.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NANCY J. BARRY, ESQ.
CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM

April 9, 2020

To: All Non-Judicial Personnel of the Unified Court System

From: John W. McConnell
Nancy Barry

Re: Deferral of 2% Salary Increases

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Last night, the Governor's Office of Employee Relations notified Executive Branch unions that, due to the financial impact of COVID-19 upon the State's economy, the Executive would be deferring for several months the 2% salary increases to employees scheduled to take effect on April 1, 2020. This deferral applies only to the planned 2% raises, and does not extend to increments, longevity bonuses, and security law enforcement differential payments. If economic conditions allow, the increases will be restored retroactively.

Obviously, this is a highly unusual step, and reflects very serious concerns over the fiscal condition of the State and budget projections for the coming year. It is also a painful measure, as it impacts a workforce of public servants who have in recent weeks worked tirelessly to continue the essential work of government in the face of this public health emergency.

After careful consideration, we have decided that the Judiciary will join with the Executive in taking this very difficult step. We believe that it is critically important to follow the lead of our Executive Branch as the effects of the crisis upon our State – including its fiscal consequences – continue to unfold in the months ahead. If economic conditions improve – and we very much hope that they do – this decision will be a temporary inconvenience for our hard-working and outstanding court workforce. If conditions continue to grow worse, it may be the first of many difficult budget decisions in days to come. In either case, we will keep you fully apprised as the situation develops.

Questions about this deferral should be addressed to the OCA Division of Human Resources.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as our State works through these difficult problems.

Above all, stay healthy and stay safe.

c: Presiding Justices of the Appellate Division
Hon. George J. Silver
Hon. Vito C. Caruso
Administrative Judges