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MAYOR DE BLASIO APPOINTS JUDGES TO FAMILY AND CIVIL COURT

NEW YORK—Mayor Bill de Blasio today appointed Gilbert Taylor to Family Court, Ben Darvil, Jr. and Mildred Negron as interim Civil Court judges, and reappointed the Honorable Gayle P. Roberts, who was first appointed to Family Court in April 1997. The two interim Civil Court judges will sit in Family Court.

“The Family Court is essential to the well-being of New York City families and our children,” said **Mayor Bill de Blasio**. “And the experienced and talented judges I’m appointing today are just as important, and I’m certain they will uphold the values of our families across the five boroughs.”

Judge Gayle Roberts, prior to being appointed to Family Court in 1997, worked for the Bronx County District Attorney’s Office for 14 years, having last served as Deputy Bureau Chief of the Trial Division. Judge Roberts is a member of the New York City Family Court Judges Association, the National Counsel of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and the Black Bar Association of Bronx County. She previously served as President of the New York State Family Court Judges Association. She received her B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh, and her J.D. from Tulane University School of Law. Judge Roberts has been reappointed to Family Court.

Judge Gilbert Taylor served with the New York City Administration for Children’s Services for 12 years, holding various positions including Deputy Commissioner of Family Court Legal Services and Executive Deputy Commissioner of Child Protection. He also has served as Attorney-in-Charge and Executive Director of the Law Guardian Program with the Children’s Rights Society of the Orange County Family Court. Prior to his appointment, he served as Commissioner of the Department of Homeless Services. Judge Taylor is a graduate of Cornell University and received his J.D. from the University of Illinois College of Law. He will now serve as a Family Court Judge.

Judge Ben Darvil, Jr., who has been appointed to Civil Court and assigned to Family Court, began his career with the Family Court Legal Services of the New York City Administration for Children’s Services. He has served with the New York State Unified Court System as a Court Attorney and Law Clerk of the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court in the Second Judicial Department. Judge Darvil also is a member of the Brooklyn Bar Association. He received his B.A. from Long Island University and his J.D. from St. John’s University, School of Law.

Judge Mildred Negron served in the Juvenile Rights Division at The Legal Aid Society for over 10 years, having served as Attorney-in-Charge of the Manhattan and Queens offices. Prior to her appointment, Judge Negron was a Court Attorney-Referee for over 13 years in Kings County and Queens County Family Court. Judge Negron is a graduate of CUNY City College and received her law degree from CUNY School of Law. Judge Negron has been appointed to Civil Court and assigned to Family Court.

About the Family Court

The Family Court is part of the New York State Unified Court System and was established to take action in the lives of children, parents and spouses. Family Court judges hear cases related to adoption, foster care, guardianship, custody and visitation, domestic violence, juvenile delinquency and abused or neglected children.

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