

VINCENT J. MESSINA JR. was elected as the Judge of the Surrogate's Court, Suffolk County in November, 2022. Prior to his election, he was a Partner in the firm of Messina Perillo & Hill, LLP, located in Sayville, New York. He was previously co-managing partner in the firm of Sinnreich Kosakoff & Messina, LLP.

Judge Messina represented numerous private individuals and entities as well as municipalities throughout the State of New York in the areas of estates and estate litigation, municipal law, land use, environmental law, election law, and municipal procurement and construction. He was a frequent in many of these areas. He also litigated matters in New York State Courts, including Supreme Court, Appellate Division, (First, Second, and Third Departments), and the Court of Appeals. In addition, he engaged in significant litigation in the federal courts, including the representation of elected and appointed officials and public bodies in civil rights litigation, and Voting Rights Act matters, including a local government and the representation of a Member of the Assembly who was a member of the commission charged with the redistricting of New York State Senate and Assembly Districts as well as other members of that entity in two (2) decennial statewide redistrictings. He has also represented members of the Judiciary before the Commission on Judicial Conduct.

Judge Messina also served the Supreme Court and Surrogates Court in the capacities of Guardian ad Litem, Temporary Guardian, Guardian, Conservator, Referee to Hear and Report, Counsel for alleged incapacitated persons, Court Evaluator, Receiver, Temporary Receiver, and Referee in Foreclosure. He served the Appellate Division, Second Department as both a Special Master in the Mandatory Mediation Program as well as a Member of the Committee on Character and Fitness.

Judge Messina is a strong believer in Bar Association participation and membership. He is the immediate Past President of the Suffolk County Bar Association and has held each office which comprises its Executive Committee, as well as being a Director for three years and serving as Chair or Co-Chair of various committees. He is also a Member of the New York State Bar Association House of Delegates and has presented continuing legal education for NYSBA.