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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACCESS JUSTICE BROOKLYN ANNOUNCES THE RETIREMENT OF 2 BOARD MEMBERS AND ELECTION OF NEW BOARD LEADERSHIP

Brooklyn, New York — Access Justice Brooklyn announces the retirement of long-time Board Vice Chair Lawrence F. DiGiovanna, Partner, Abrams Fensterman LLP, and Board Member, Steven Zelkowitz, President, Utility Technology Solutions and the election of former Board Secretary, Stephen Z. Williamson, Principal Attorney, Law Office of Stephen Z. Williamson, P.L.L.C., as Vice Chair and Michael Watson, Senior Investment Analyst, Hedge Funds, Ford Foundation as Secretary following the organization's March 9, 2023 board meeting. In addition, Lynn E. Judell, Of Counsel, Schwartz Sladkus Reich Greenberg Atlas LLP, and Scottye Lindsey, Head of US CIB Leveraged Finance, Santander Bank, were re-elected as Chair and Treasurer, respectively.

Upon retirement, Larry DiGiovanna, who joined the Board of Directors of Access Justice Brooklyn in 1999 and served on the Executive Committee as Vice Chair for twenty years and chaired the Audit Committee since 2015, said: *"I am deeply appreciative for having had the opportunity and ability to serve the organization as a volunteer, Board Member, and officer. I congratulate the Board on the amazing progress that has been made over the past decade in bringing Access Justice Brooklyn from a modest but effective provider to one of the top volunteer legal service organizations in New York State. Our accomplishments in growth, both financial and programmatic, give us all reasons to be proud. But for those who have engaged in volunteerism, we know the most gratifying moments come when clients, each in their own way, express their appreciation for our help, although we require no such thanks."*

Steve Zelkowitz, who also joined the Board of Directors of Access Justice Brooklyn in 1999 and chaired the organization's Investment Committee from 2014-2020, shared the following: *"It has been my honor and privilege to serve as a member of the Board of Access Justice Brooklyn for over 23 years, and contribute, in some small way, to its development and growth into a critical part of the legal infrastructure in Brooklyn providing vital legal services to the underserved of the borough. I wish the organization and its staff nothing but continued success in achieving its important mission."*

Over the years, Larry and Steve have epitomized the definition of leadership, generosity, and dedication. Their unwavering support, expert guidance, and vision helped shape the organization, propelling the advancement of Access Justice Brooklyn's mission and pioneering pro bono model.



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Reflecting on their contributions to the organization, Board Chair, Lynn Judell said the following: *“Larry and Steve are shining examples of what it means to be legal advocates for our community. Their shared values and commitment to equal justice are what helped pave the path for Access Justice Brooklyn to enhance its role in providing high-quality, civil legal services to Brooklyn’s underserved communities. Their influence and impact will be forever embedded into the fiber of Access Justice Brooklyn’s work and fulfillment of our mission.”*

About Access Justice Brooklyn:

Access Justice Brooklyn partners with compassionate pro bono attorneys to provide high-quality, civil legal services that help ensure equal access to the legal system. The organization’s approach prioritizes the most basic, essential elements and experiences of human life, including housing, family stability, and subsistence income. Its proven pro bono model—recruit, train, supervise, and support—also provides flexibility to address new legal issues as they emerge. Everyone, whether an attorney or not, has a role to play in expanding access to justice. Visit www.accessjusticebrooklyn.org or email info@accessjusticebk.org to volunteer, donate, or find other ways to get involved.

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