

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 31, 2025**

### **Chief Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr. elected President of Conference of Chief Justices and Chair of National Center for State Courts**

*He will lead the two national court organizations through July 2026*

At its July 2025 annual meeting in Rockport, Maine, the Conference of Chief Justices elected Delaware Supreme Court Chief Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr. president of the national Conference of Chief Justices. Chief Justice Seitz will also serve as the Chair of the National Center for State Courts' Board of Directors for a one-year term.

Chief Justice Seitz, who has served as Conference's vice-president for the past year, takes over from Utah Chief Justice Matthew Durrant.

Chief Justice Seitz is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and former trustee of the American Inns of Court. He serves as Judicial Liaison to the American Bar Association's Corporate Laws Committee and is a member of the American Law Institute, where he serves as a judicial advisor to its Restatement of the Law, Corporate Governance. He also serves on the Judicial Conference Committee on Federal-State Jurisdiction.

The Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) was founded in 1949 to strengthen state courts and advance the fair administration of justice. It is a central part of the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). CCJ also acts as the primary representative for state court systems before Congress and federal executive agencies. In addition to its work with CCJ, NCSC provides education, training, technology, management, and research services to the nation's state courts.

Chief Justice Seitz's election marks the third time a Delaware Chief Justice has headed the two national organizations. Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey was the first from Delaware, serving as CCJ president from 1999-2000, followed by Delaware Chief Justice Myron T. Steele, who served from 2012-2013.

"I'm honored to serve these organizations along with NCSC's new president, Elizabeth Clement. We will work together to support the chief justices and the state courts as they address the many challenges facing state courts today," said Chief Justice Seitz.

The Delaware Judiciary has a long tradition of working with national judicial organizations like CCJ and NCSC.

Delaware State Court Administrator Gayle Lafferty serves on several committees with the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA), including its Access and Fairness Committee and the Public Trust and Confidence Committee. In 2015, then-State Court Administrator Patricia Griffin, became the first Delawarean to serve as COSCA's president.

The Delaware Judiciary's Chief of Community Relations, Sean O'Sullivan, is currently completing his term as president of the Conference of Court Public Information Officers (CCPIO) and Delaware Supreme Court Clerk, Lisa Dolph, currently serves on the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks (NCACC).

All these organizations are affiliated with the National Center for State Courts.