



Lauren A. Jones, Esq. is the ADR Coordinator for New York City Surrogates' Courts. In this role, she is responsible for developing and implementing ADR plans for each of the 7 NYC Surrogates, recruiting, maintaining and training high quality mediators, liaising with the ADR clinics of local law schools as well as working with local Community Dispute Resolution Centers. Ms. Jones is also a trained mediator, receiving nearly 200 hours in training.

Immediately preceding this role, Ms. Jones was a Principal Court Attorney in New York County Supreme Court's Commercial Division (first, for Hon. Eileen Bransten and then, upon her retirement, with Hon. Joel M. Cohen) where she focused on conducting settlement conferences, case management and mediations while also drafting decisions on complex commercial matters. While in Chambers, she enjoyed a very high success rate in resolving complex commercial business disputes as well as contractual disputes that did not meet the Commercial Division's \$500,000 threshold.

Prior to joining the New York State court system, Ms. Jones was a litigation partner at a large national firm where she was named a Super Lawyers Rising Star each year. Prior to that, Ms. Jones worked as a Medical Malpractice defense lawyer as well as a Personal Injury plaintiff's lawyer. Her varied experiences as both a litigator and an ADR facilitator has made her an effective, relatable and creative neutral, and now coordinator. Ms. Jones is the co-chair of the Metropolitan Black Bar Association's ADR Section and an Executive Board Member of the Association of Law Secretaries for Elected Supreme Court and Surrogate Court Judges. She is also a Commissioner on the

Franklin H. Williams Commission, as appointed by Chief Judge DiFiore in 2018 and, in 2017, was awarded the Hon. Judith S. Kaye Commercial and Federal Litigation Scholarship Award. Ms. Jones often serves as a panelist and speaker on dispute resolution, diversity in the mediation field and best practice in state courts.

Ms. Jones is a Board Member of ACR-GNY, a Commissioner with the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission, as appointed by Chief Judge Janet DiFiore and the Co-Chair of the Metropolitan Black Bar Association's ADR Section.

Ms. Jones obtained her BA from Duke University and her JD from Brooklyn Law School. She resides in Brooklyn with her husband and three-year old daughter.