

Intro. Res. No. 1054-2021

Laid on Table 2/2/2021

Introduced by Legislator McCaffrey at the request of Suffolk County District Administrative Judge Andrew A. Crecca and Legislators Fleming, Hahn, Kennedy, Berland, Donnelly, Richberg, Krupski, Mazzarella, Caracappa, Anker, Calarco, Gonzalez, Cilmi, Flotteron, Trotta, Spencer

**RESOLUTION NO. 536-2021, NAMING THE SUPREME COURT BUILDING AT THE JOHN P. COHALAN, JR. COURT COMPLEX IN HONOR OF JUSTICE MARQUETTE L. FLOYD**

**WHEREAS**, New York State Supreme Court Justice Marquette L. Floyd lived a remarkable life of public service; and

**WHEREAS**, growing up in the rural segregated South, Justice Floyd overcame tremendous obstacles - the Great Depression caused his family to move to New York in search of work. Upon graduating high school and attending classes at New York University ("NYU"), Justice Floyd joined the United States Air Force; and

**WHEREAS**, Marquette L. Floyd faced discrimination in the military when he was denied an opening for technical training after qualifying for Officers Candidate School. Shortly after this time, the United States Military was desegregated by President Truman; and

**WHEREAS**, following his honorable discharge in 1954, the G.I. bill allowed Justice Floyd to finish NYU and go on to Brooklyn Law School. He was admitted to the bar in 1960 and entered private practice in Amityville; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1969, Marquette L. Floyd became the first African American District Court Judge in Suffolk County; and

**WHEREAS**, Justice Floyd served on the District Court bench with distinction for 19 years, becoming its senior judge; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1989, after years of being passed over for higher judicial nominations, Justice Floyd became the first African American Justice of the New York State Supreme Court in Suffolk County; and

**WHEREAS**, Justice Floyd also served on the Appellate Term, serving as Presiding Justice from 2001 until his retirement at the end of 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout his career, Justice Floyd was widely respected and admired by lawyers, judges, colleagues and friends for his intelligence, dignity, humility and perseverance; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to his service on the bench, Justice Floyd served as a Director of the Suffolk County Bar Association, as a member of the Charter Review Commission, Martin Luther King Commission and Human Rights Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, Justice Floyd passed away on December 12, 2020 at the age of 93; and

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County District Administrative Judge Andrew A. Crecca supports naming the Supreme Court Building at the John P. Cohalan, Jr. Court Complex in Central Islip as the Marquette L. Floyd Supreme Court Building; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of his years of service to the County, the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in the State of New York and our nation, the County should rename the Supreme Court Building at the John P. Cohalan, Jr. Court Complex as a fitting tribute to Justice Marquette L. Floyd to honor his legacy as a true pioneer of justice, equality and as a source of inspiration to younger generations seeking to overcome racial bias and socio-economic adversity; now, therefore be it

**1st RESOLVED**, that the Supreme Court Building at the John P. Cohalan, Jr. Court Complex be named the Marquette L. Floyd Supreme Court Building in the John P. Cohalan, Jr. Court Complex; and be it further

**2nd RESOLVED**, that the Department of Public Works is hereby authorized, empowered and directed, pursuant to Section 8-2(W) of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CHARTER, to take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate this naming and dedication; and be it further

**3rd RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(26) and (33) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW insofar as these actions constitute routine or continuing administration and management not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: June 22, 2021

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone  
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: July 9, 2021