

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Family Court Commissioner Andrew K. Southmayd honored with  
Outstanding Service to the Courts and Bar Award**

The Honorable Andrew K. Southmayd, Commissioner of the Delaware Family Court, has been honored by the Delaware State Bar Association with its Outstanding Service to the Courts and Bar Award. Commissioner Southmayd has been a judicial officer at the Family Court in Georgetown for over 30 years and resides in the Lewes area.

The commissioner received the award at a luncheon last month in Wilmington at the Hyatt Place on the Riverfront, where it was presented by Family Court Judge Janell Ostroski.

The award is presented “to a Delaware lawyer or judge who, by exemplary service to the Delaware Courts and the Delaware Bar, has substantially assisted the courts and the Bar and has strengthened public trust and confidence in the courts in the state of Delaware and the administration of justice.”

Commissioner Southmayd got his start in Family Court as a Judicial Assistant (Court Security Officer) in 1988. He then became the paralegal for Family Court from 1989-1990. He left Family Court after completing law school to go into private practice but quickly returned to Family Court as a Master in 1992 and was nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate as a Commissioner in 1998. He has been re-appointed to four subsequent terms, most recently in 2020.

In presenting the award, Judge Ostroski praised Commissioner Southmayd as an expert in child support and a resource to the entire Family Court. “Commissioner Southmayd has been an integral member of the committee which reviews our child support formula since 1994. In addition to his courtroom work, he dedicates countless hours to our child support processes and procedures. In recent years, he was a leader in the Family Court Enhancement Project that resulted in system improvements and chaired the access to justice sub-committee,” she said. Commissioner Southmayd dedicated his award to all of the talented and hard-working court staff with whom he has served.