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NEWS RELEASE

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Whitman to Nominate LaVecchia to Supreme Court of New Jersey

NJ Gov. Christie Whitman today announced her intention to nominate Jaynee LaVecchia, of Morris Township, to become an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey. LaVecchia, who has served as the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance since November of 1998, will replace Justice Marie L. Garibaldi, who announced her retirement yesterday.

"Jaynee LaVecchia has distinguished herself as among the most capable attorneys in New Jersey and as a public servant of impeccable integrity, compassion and commitment. I can think of no one better equipped to sit on our state's highest court," Gov. Whitman said.

"Commissioner LaVecchia's 19-year career in state government is as remarkable as it is notable. She oversaw implementation of the most sweeping overhaul of the state's auto insurance system in 25 years, she successfully tried important legal cases for the state and she presided as the Chief Administrative Law Judge over bench trials on key state government issues," Whitman said.

"Jaynee LaVecchia exemplifies the very best in public service. She is a tireless advocate for the causes she believes in. She possesses both a command of the theory of our laws and a practical understanding of how they affect real people in real life situations," she said.

LaVecchia has handled cases in the state and federal courts including the United States Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit, the US District Court for the District of New Jersey and for the District of Columbia and the Supreme Court of New Jersey. LaVecchia wrote more than 90 opinions as the state's Chief Administrative Law Judge.

A copy of Commissioner LaVecchia's resume is attached.