STATE OF NEW YORK

10604

IN SENATE

May 29, 2026

Introduced by Sen. SEPULVEDA -- (at request of the Unified Court System) -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT to amend the judiciary law, in relation to providing additional protection to judges and their family members under the Judicial Security Act

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subdivision 1 of section 859 of the judiciary law, as added by section 2 of part F of chapter 55 of the laws of 2024, are amended to read as follows:

(b) "Immediate family" shall mean, for each eligible individual, the spouse, former spouse, **domestic partner, former domestic partner,** parent, child, and sibling.

(c) "Personal information" shall include the following for an eligible individual and, if such individual so indicates as provided in subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (a) of subdivision two of this section, for the members of their immediate family: (i) home address, including primary residence and secondary residences; (ii) unlisted telephone number; (iii) personal cell phone number; (iv) personal email address; (v) social security number; (vi) driver's license number; (vii) license plate number; (viii) marital status and identity of any present and former spouse **or domestic partner**; (ix) identity of children [~~**under the age of eighteen**~~]; (x) name and address of a school or day care facility attended by an immediate family member; (xi) bank account number; (xii) credit or debit card number; and (xiii) personal identification number (PIN).

§ 2. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of section 859 of the judiciary law, as added by section 2 of part F of chapter 55 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

(a) An eligible individual or their representative may submit a written request to their employer or former employer. To be enforceable, a written request shall be signed by an eligible individual, or their representative, and specify:

EXPLANATION--Matter in **italics** (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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(i) those items of personal information that the eligible individual wishes to be kept from being made public;

(ii) the identity of members of the eligible individual's immediate family and whether, for purposes of the written request, their personal information should be deemed to include that of such immediate family members; [~~and~~]

(iii) each person, business, association, and public or private agency that the eligible individual wishes to bar from making public the personal information of such eligible individual**; and**

(iv) if known, the specific record or records held by such person, business, association or public or private entity containing the items of personal information requested to be kept from being made public, and the place within such record or records where those items are located.

§ 3. Subparagraphs (i) and (ii) of paragraph (c) of subdivision 2 of section 859 of the judiciary law, as added by section 2 of part F of chapter 55 of the laws of 2024, are amended to read as follows:

(i) If a written request has been properly submitted and is complete, the employer for an active or former judge or justice of the unified court system or active or former judge of the housing part of the civil court of the city of New York, as appropriate, shall, within five business days of receipt of such written request from an eligible individual, notify each person, business, association, and public or private agency identified in the written request that (A) within seventy-two hours of receipt of such notification, that such person, business, association, and public or private agency must cease making public the personal information of the eligible individual identified in such request, and (B) they must make reasonable efforts to ensure that the personal information of the eligible individual is not made available on any website or subsidiary website controlled by that person, business, or association. For purposes of this subparagraph, notification shall be by certified mail, return receipt requested, either at the recipient's last known residence (if recipient is a person) or at the recipient's principal office (which shall be the location at which the office of the chief executive officer of the recipient is generally located)**, or by electronic mail or other means as shall be reasonably determined to provide notice to such recipient**.

(ii) If a written request has been properly submitted and is complete, the employer of an active or former federal judge of a federal court established in New York may notify each person, business, association, and public or private agency identified in the written request that (A) within seventy-two hours of receipt of such notification, they must cease making public the personal information of the eligible individual identified in such request, and (B) they must make reasonable efforts to ensure that the personal information of the eligible individual is not made available on any website or subsidiary website controlled by that person, business, or association. For purposes of this subparagraph, notification may be by certified mail, return receipt requested, either at the recipient's last known residence (if the recipient is a person) or at the recipient's principal office (which shall be the location at which the office of the chief executive officer of the recipient is generally located)**, or by electronic mail or other means as shall be reasonably determined to provide notice to such recipient**.

§ 4. Subdivision 2 of section 859 of the judiciary law is amended by adding a new paragraph (d) to read as follows:

(d) For the purposes of this subdivision: (i) the chief administrator of the courts shall be deemed the employer of a state-paid judge or

justice of the unified court system, and of a judge of the housing part of the civil court of the city of New York; and (ii) in the event that an eligible individual requests that a county clerk cease making public the residential address of an immediate family member over the age of eighteen, the written consent of such family member shall first be obtained and shall be included with the written request submitted by the eligible individual to their employer or former employer.

§ 5. Subdivision 3 of section 859 of the judiciary law, as added by section 2 of part F of chapter 55 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

3. Recipient of notification not to make an eligible individual's personal information public. (a) After a person, business, association, or public or private agency has received a notification pursuant to paragraph (c) of subdivision two of this section, they shall have seventy-two hours to cease making public the personal information of the eligible individual identified in such notification.

(b) The prohibition against the public disclosure of such personal information shall continue until the recipient of the notification receives:

(i) a notarized letter from the eligible individual providing a release from the prohibition for a limited period or for a limited purpose, and specifying the personal information that may be disclosed, the purpose of the disclosure, and the authorized recipients and/or specific duration of the disclosure;

(ii) a notarized letter from the eligible individual, or their employer or former employer, stating that the written request submitted pursuant to subdivision two of this section has been withdrawn in its entirety;

(iii) upon the death of the eligible individual, an authorization to release such personal information received from the court-appointed representative of the estate of the eligible individual; or

(iv) a court order authorizing the release of such personal information.

§ 6. Section 859 of the judiciary law is amended by adding a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

6. The chief administrator of the courts may develop procedures necessary to prevent the disclosure of personal information in the possession of the unified court system regarding eligible individuals and members of their immediate family.

§ 7. This act shall take effect immediately.