

JAY A. DIRMENBERGER

Good afternoon Senator Looney, Representative Janowski, members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. I am honored to have been nominated by Governor Rell to serve as an alternate public member on the Judicial Review Council.

My wife Molly and I are residents of Westport, Connecticut. We moved from New York City in November 2008. As I did in New York, I am becoming active in local community affairs, including the Westport Schools mentoring program, the Westport Historical Society and the Green Village Initiative. I am also a member of Gold's Dragoons, which is an honorary military unit commemorating the original unit started in Fairfield in 1660.

My background in business and community affairs will be an asset to the council in particular in matters of "conflict of interest".

As to my business experience I have been serving public, corporate and union pension plan trustees for over 30 years. All of these relationships have demanded the highest standards of ethical behavior and fiduciary responsibility. Various regulatory agencies reinforce this behavior through licensing and periodic training requirements.

For the last seven years I have been employed as a managing director by Lyster Watson & Company, a New York based investment advisor. Former employers include Wachovia, Dreyfus, AG Becker and Loomis-Sayles. I served as Vice-Chairman of Julius Baer's US based investment management company for over sixteen years, which managed a portfolio for the State of Connecticut's Retirement Plans in the late 1980's and early 1990's. During all this time I have been active in industry organizations sponsored by institutional investors.

As to important community affairs, I was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the United Nations International School by the Secretary General of the United Nations, and served as its Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee for over four years. I also served as president and/or treasurer of my New York City apartment tenants association for over twenty years, perhaps my most demanding position.

I received a B.A. in History from the University of Buffalo in 1966 and an MBA from New York University in 1977. I was a captain in the United States Army. I flew helicopters with the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam and served as an aide-de-camp to the commanding general of 18th Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg.

If confirmed you have my assurance that I will be an active, thoughtful and objective participant in any cases that come before the council. Thank your for attention and I welcome your questions.