

CHILDREN'S STUDIES 25 (2200): SPECIAL TOPICS:  
CHILDREN, GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY  
IN NEW YORK STATE

**DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES**  
FALL 2010

OCTOBER 21, 2010

**GUEST SPEAKER: JUDGE EDWINA RICHARDSON- MENDELSON**  
**Administrative Judge**  
**Family Court of the State of New York**

Judge Richardson-Mendelson was appointed to the Family Court bench by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg on January 24, 2003. On February 14, 2008 she was appointed Supervising Judge of Queens County Family Court. On May 6, 2009, Judge Richardson-Mendelson was appointed Administrative Judge for the Family Court of the City of New York.

Prior to becoming a Judge, Judge Richardson-Mendelson served as a Court Attorney-Referee in Queens County Family Court presiding over post-dispositional child protective proceedings. Prior thereto, Judge Richardson-Mendelson worked for ten years as an Assigned Counsel Panel 18-b attorney representing parents and children in New York County Family Court as well as in Supreme Court matrimonial matters. She also served as the first staff attorney for the Sanctuary for Families Center for Battered Women's Legal Services from 1990-1991 and was an attorney with The Legal Aid Society-Bronx County Civil Division from 1988-1989, where she represented indigent clients in Housing Court and in benefits entitlement proceedings.

Judge Richardson-Mendelson graduated from the C.U.N.Y. Law School, Queens College, in 1988. She also earned a Master of Philosophy degree in Criminal Justice from the C.U.N.Y. Graduate Center in 2000 and a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the C.U.N.Y. Graduate Center in 2002. Judge Richardson-Mendelson taught courses in criminal law, constitutional law, evidence, and administration of justice as an Adjunct Professor in the Law and Police Science Department at John Jay College of Criminal Justice from 1990-2000, and has lectured frequently on Family Law issues. She has been a member of several bar association committees involving family law and children's issues, and she chaired the Children and the Law Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York from 1999-2001. Judge Richardson-Mendelson is the former Chair of the Law Guardian /Assigned Counsel Advisory Committee for the 2nd and 11th Judicial Districts.

Information about Judge Richardson-Mendelson is also available on the [Judicial Directory](#).