## NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

**Press Release** 

Michael A. Cardozo, Corporation Counsel

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For Immediate Release

## CORPORATION COUNSEL NAMES ANGELA ALBERTUS AS THE NEW CHIEF OF THE FAMILY COURT DIVISION

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New York, April 22, 2010 – Corporation Counsel Michael A. Cardozo announced today the selection of Angela Albertus as the new Chief for the Law Department's Family Court Division. Ms. Albertus previously served as the Division's Deputy Chief, and has been the acting Chief since the Mayor's selection of Larry Busching, the previous Chief, to head the City's newly restructured juvenile justice efforts under the Administration for Children's Services.

"Angela has a long and distinguished career in public service, and she is uniquely suited to take the helm. I am confident that her dedication and expertise will be invaluable in balancing the competing needs of public safety and the best interests of youths in trouble," said Corporation Counsel Michael A. Cardozo.

"I am honored to have this opportunity. I look forward to spearheading our efforts to make our communities safer while connecting young people to critical resources, assisting crime victims, and helping custodial parents receive much-needed child support payments," said Ms. Albertus.

As Chief, Ms. Albertus will oversee the second-largest of the Law Department's 17 legal divisions. The Division has offices in all five boroughs, and is comprised of over 90 attorneys and 60 support staff. The Family Court Division is divided into two subunits – the Juvenile Crime Prosecution Unit and the Interstate Child Support Unit. The Interstate Child Support Unit represents out-of-state petitioners seeking child support from New York City residents. The Juvenile Crime Prosecution Unit, which houses the Major Case Unit and the Sex Crimes Prosecution Unit, prosecutes juveniles under the age of 16 accused of committing crimes. In cases where the Family Court finds guilt, attorneys then seek case dispositions that balance juveniles' needs and best interests with public safety concerns. Attorneys handle a wide variety of cases, including assaults, robberies, weapons possession, drug offenses, sex offenses and homicides.

Ms. Albertus began her legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, where she was a member of the Felony Domestic Violence Unit. She was then appointed as the head of the City's Commission to Combat Family Violence – now known as the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence.

Prior to joining the Law Department in 2005, she served as Assistant General Counsel, then later the Chief of Staff, for the Administration for Children's Services. Ms. Albertus, a Brooklyn resident, graduated from Fordham Law School and SUNY Albany.

The New York City Law Department is one of the oldest, largest and most dynamic law offices in the world, ranking among the top three largest law offices in New York City and one of the largest public law offices in the country. Tracing its roots back to the 1600's, the Department has an active caseload of 90,000 matters and transactions in 17 legal divisions. The Corporation Counsel heads the Law Department and acts as legal counsel for the Mayor, elected officials, the City and all its agencies. The

Department's 650 attorneys represent the City on a vast array of civil litigation, legislative and legal issues and in the criminal prosecution of juveniles. For more information, please visit <u>nyc.gov/law</u>.