

**PENNSYLVANIA BAR ASSOCIATION
JUDICIAL EVALUATION COMMISSION
2005 RETENTION CANDIDATE RATINGS**

**The Honorable Sandra Schultz Newman
Supreme Court
Rating: Recommended**

Justice Newman was elected to the Supreme Court in 1996 after serving as a Judge on the Commonwealth Court for two years. Prior to becoming a Judge, Justice Newman was in private practice for twenty years, and before that served for two years as an Assistant District Attorney in Montgomery County. During her term on the Supreme Court, Justice Newman has earned a reputation as a dedicated, intelligent and hard working jurist who possesses a keen business sense and an ability to understand complex issues. She is an independent thinker, well prepared, attentive, and respectful of counsel during argument before the Court. Her written opinions reflect a thorough understanding of the facts and the record below and are clear, well written and logical. In the performance of her administrative duties on the Court, Justice Newman has proven to be an able administrator, especially in her position as liaison to the First Judicial District (Philadelphia County) of Pennsylvania. Her numerous community activities, honors and awards speak to her long-term devotion to her community, to the Commonwealth, and to the improvement of equal justice under the law. Justice Newman is held in high esteem by her judicial colleagues, by those who have appeared before her and by those who have worked with her. She unquestionably has earned the right to be retained on the Commonwealth's highest Court.

**The Honorable Russell M. Nigro
Supreme Court
Rating: Recommended**

Prior to his election to the Supreme Court Justice Nigro was in private practice for fifteen years and then served as a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County from 1987 until 1995. Justice Nigro has served with distinction on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court since 1995. He is highly regarded within the legal community for his fairness, work ethic, judicial temperament and integrity. He is respectful and courteous to all parties who appear before the Court. Even parties who have been unsuccessful before him have acknowledged that he is well prepared, even-handed, courteous and thorough. He has exhibited a keen interest in administrative issues of the Court and in the regulation of Pennsylvania's attorneys. His opinions are well written, cogent and readily understood. Justice Nigro is a jurist who "calls it as he sees it." He has demonstrated all of the qualities requisite to a Justice of the Supreme Court and has fulfilled with enthusiasm and conscientiousness his responsibilities on the Court during his initial term. His independence, work ethic and commitment to enhancing the quality of justice in Pennsylvania all clearly warrant that Justice Nigro be retained as a member of Pennsylvania's highest Court.