Alumna appointed to NYS Appellate Division 1/08/08

ALBANY, NYGOV. Eliot Spitzer's appointment of Manhattan Supreme Court Justices Karla Moskowitz, AU class of 1963, and Rolando T. Acosta to the Appellate Division, First Department, is seen as the first step toward significant change in the composition of not only the First Department, but the Third as well. Mr. Spitzer announced on New Year's Eve that Justices Moskowitz and Acosta will fill openings in the First Department. In a statement, the governor called both new Appellate Division justices "superb lawyers and jurists." Both judges said through Mr. Spitzer's office that they were honored to join the First Department bench. Justice Moskowitz has been a Supreme Court justice since 1992 and sits in the Commercial Division in Manhattan. She was formerly a Civil Court judge in Manhattan. In 2001-02, she was president of the National Association of Women Judges. Both Justices Moskowitz and Acosta are graduates of Columbia Law School. Mr. Spitzer's selections are in keeping with his expected emphasis on promoting more women and minorities to the appellate bench.