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September 20, 2016

Hon. Janet DiFiore
Chief Judge of the State of New York
New York State Unified Court System
Office of Court Administration, Rm. 852
25 Beaver Street
New York, NY 10004

Dear Chief Judge DiFiore:

Wilson Elser fully supports the New York City Bar Association's proposal in forming a CLE requirement for diversity and inclusion training. We as a firm seek to cultivate a firm culture that embraces and promotes diversity and inclusion as it is central to our core values. Diversity and inclusion is imperative to be successful in the world we live in. It enhances our ability to meet our clients' needs, and more importantly, makes us a better firm.

For the third year in a row, Wilson Elser has celebrated diversity and inclusion with a national program called, "*Diversity and Inclusion Day*" where each office promotes the importance of diversity and inclusion, and all attorneys and non-attorney personnel are encouraged to attend. The day begins with a presentation from our chairman, Diversity & Committee Chair, and diversity consultant on the value of diversity and inclusion in the context of today's legal environment. This presentation is then followed by a luncheon of diverse cuisine and various office-specific activities as a part of the celebration. This program has received positive feedback from attendees even without the added incentive of receiving CLE credit. Our attorneys and professional staff seemed to genuinely enjoy this event, and learned a great deal on what it means to be diverse and how to be inclusive. This year's program will be held on September 28 and is entitled, "Generational Diversity".

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There may come a time in every attorney's career where they will encounter working with minorities or even encounter prejudice themselves. Making diversity and inclusion a CLE requirement will not only raise awareness on these important social issues, but will enable our attorneys, organizations and law firms to work toward eliminating bias in all aspects of the profession. We encourage and support the NYC Bar's efforts in implementing diversity and inclusion as a mandatory continuing legal education requirement.

Respectfully yours,

Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP

Angela Russell / JHK

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Diversity & Inclusion Committee Chair