

Hon. Betty Calvo-Torres
Judge of the Court of Claims
NYS Supreme Court – 8th Judicial District

Hon. Calvo-Torres began her judicial career in 2007 with an appointment and then election to the Buffalo City Court. She was subsequently re-elected to a second ten-year term in 2017. During her fifteen years on the Buffalo City Court bench, Hon. Calvo-Torres served as the Presiding Domestic Violence Court Judge, an Acting Erie County Court Judge, and as a mentor judge. Judge Calvo-Torres also served as the back-up judge for Buffalo City Court misdemeanor treatment courts for two years and during the pandemic. In 2021, Hon. Calvo-Torres became presiding judge of Buffalo's Drug Treatment Court, Mental Health Treatment Court, and Veterans' Treatment Court. During her tenure, Judge Calvo-Torres oversaw the transition of the three treatment courts from misdemeanor courts to Superior Courts, ensuring that these treatment courts were in alignment with national best practice standards.

In 2022, Judge Calvo-Torres was appointed to the New York State Court of Claims by Governor Hochul. Upon her confirmation, she became the first Hispanic in the 8th Judicial District and in Western New York to serve in that capacity. Judge Calvo-Torres currently serves in Supreme Court Criminal Term, 8th Judicial District.

Hon. Calvo-Torres earned her bachelor's degree from S.U.N.Y. Binghamton in Political Science and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Buffalo School of Law. Hon. Calvo-Torres began her legal career as staff counsel for National Inner Cities Youth Opportunities, representing at-risk youth in Family Court. A year later she joined the Erie County District Attorney's Office as an Assistant District Attorney where she prosecuted crimes at both the misdemeanor and felony level. Before taking the bench, Hon. Calvo-Torres owned her own law firm focusing in the areas of criminal defense and family law. She also served *Of Counsel* to a plaintiff's litigation firm. In addition, Hon. Calvo-Torres accepted cases as a member of the Assigned Counsel 18b panel, applying her legal experience and fluency in Spanish towards representing clients who otherwise could not afford an attorney.

In addition to her judicial responsibilities, Hon. Calvo-Torres has been Supervising Judge of Genesee and Wyoming Counties Town and Village Courts since January 1, 2023. Judge Calvo-Torres is also an Adjunct Professor at the Buffalo University School of Law where she has been teaching since 2015. Hon. Calvo-Torres is co-chair of the 8th Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee and serves on the statewide Criminal Procedure Law Advisory Committee. Additionally, Hon. Calvo-Torres created the curriculum for and for the past twelve years has served as the volunteer administrator of a leadership development/scholarship program for high school students in the WNY region. Hon. Calvo-Torres frequently serves as a keynote speaker, panelist and lecturer concerning domestic violence, criminal justice, and self-empowerment in schools and for non-profit organizations.

Judge Betty Calvo-Torres is married to Charles Torres, a retired Senior Investigator with the New York State Police, and the proud mother of their son, Christian and stepmother to Jennifer, Charles, and Katherine.