

For Christie and Lee Solomon, is third Supreme Court nom a charm?



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Gov. Chris Christie will likely nominate Superior Court Judge Lee Solomon to the State Supreme Court, according to sources close to the process. The announcement is expected shortly, perhaps this week.

The nomination of Solomon, a Republican from Haddonfield in Camden County, would be Christie's third attempt at filling this vacancy on the state's highest court. His previous nominations of First State Assistant Attorney Phillip Kwon and Chatham Mayor Bruce Harris were denied by Senate Democrats in what became a bitter political struggle.

The nomination seems promising to Sen. Kip Bateman of the Judiciary Committee. In a [comment](#) to the Star-Ledger, he called Solomon a "great pick" and "the full package."

Solomon has spent his entire career in the public sector. According to the Star-Ledger, he has served as a prosecutor, assemblyman, and freeholder. He is also a friend of Gov. Christie. The pair became close when Christie was U.S. Attorney and created a deputy attorney position for Solomon. In 2010, Christie named Solomon to head the Public Board of Utilities. Christie then named Solomon to the Superior Court of Camden in 2011.

Conservative blogger and Save Jersey founder Matt Rooney argues that while Solomon's nomination is predictable, state Democrats cannot say he is inexperienced.

"It's going to be much, much harder for them to treat a sitting member of the State Judiciary with disrespect," wrote Rooney. "Doesn't mean they won't try."

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