

Featured Slideshows



World's Most Useless Facts

- [Celebs Who Lean To The Right](#)
- [Best Picture Blunders](#)
- [Celebrity Mug Shots](#)
- [2010 Celebrity Deaths](#)

[E-mail](#) [Print](#) [Share +](#) [Comments](#)

May 26, 2010 2:38 pm US/Eastern

Judge Appoints Morgenthau To Help FDNY Hiring

NEW YORK (CBS) — A federal judge in Brooklyn has appointed former longtime New York District Attorney Robert Morgenthau as a special master to help force the city to improve the hiring the black firefighters.

Judge Nicholas Garaufis blasted the city in his order announcing the appointment of Morgenthau for throwing up roadblocks to ending its discrimination against black applicants for firefighter jobs.

Garaufis ruled in January that the city must revamp its hiring practices to end the discrimination. He found the city had intentionally discriminated against blacks. The New York Fire Department has about 350 black firefighters out of 11,500 total.

The city Law Department didn't immediately respond to a call seeking comment.

A federal judge slammed New York City for adopting hiring practices at the fire department that he said were designed to keep blacks and Hispanics from joining the force.

On January 13, Garaufis said the FDNY's written exams were part of a pattern of intentional discrimination against blacks and Hispanics in violation of the Civil Rights Act, and have been going on since the 1960s.

Garaufis called the practices "a persistent stain on the Fire Department's record."

According to the Center for Constitutional Rights, as of October 2007, black and Hispanic firefighters comprised only 3.4 and 6.7 percent of the FDNY, respectively. The combined black and Hispanic population of New York City comprises over half its total population.

The judge ruled in July that the written exams used to screen and rank applicants were discriminatory. The department has about 350 black firefighters out of 11,500.

The city law department disagreed with the judge's ruling. A spokesman for the organization that represents black firefighters said he was hopeful a remedy was near.



1 of 1 [Click to enlarge](#)

Former Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau New York County District Attorney's Office

Related Slideshows



[2010 Celebrity Deaths](#)



[Halle Berry: Then & Now](#)



[Heidi Klum](#)



[Adriana Lima](#)



[Kim Kardashian](#)



[Tricia Helfer: Then And Now](#)



[Hottest Female Athletes](#)



[Hottest Celebrity Moms](#)



(© MMX, CBS Broadcasting Inc. All Rights Reserved.)

[WCBSTV.com Popular Pages](#)

- [Celebrities On Twitter](#)
- [Celebrity Real Names Revealed](#)
- [Hilarious Movie Blunders](#)
- [World's Coolest Fighter Jets](#)
- [Famous People Pigging Out](#)
- [World's Most Useless Facts](#)