



Don't miss these NJSBA events in 2023

From professional development classes, networking opportunities and trips with colleagues, there's something for attorneys of every stripe in 2023. Here is a sneak peek at some of the highlights—so far—on the 2023 calendar of New Jersey State Bar Association events and New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education programs.

Visit the NJSBA and NJICLE websites to register.

PracticeHQ: Word Power Hour

Jan. 24, 12-1 p.m.

PracticeHQ is a free benefit to help NJSBA members manage their law practices more efficiently and effectively. The free Word Power Hour webinar offers a crash course on the tips and techniques to navigate Microsoft Word and fix legal drafting problems.

Family Law Symposium

Jan. 27, 6-8 p.m.

Jan. 28, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

The Family Law Symposium is back in person at Hyatt in New Brunswick, where hundreds of family law attorneys, judges, paralegals and other related professionals will convene for New Jersey's premier family law event.

Pro Bono Awards Ceremony

Feb. 15, 6-8:30 p.m.

Join an inspirational evening where the NJSBA will recognize the Pro Bono



Award recipients for 2022, given to attorneys, business, law students and law firms that exemplified the virtues of pro bono service in the last year.

Women's Leadership Conference

Feb. 20, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Attend to hear from a panel of exceptional women for a program on what it means to be a leader and how attorneys can obtain those skills to serve themselves, their clients, their practice and their communities. Guest speakers include Supreme Court justices, jurists, bar leaders, and renowned soccer player Christie Pearce Rampone and will feature a special conversation with U.S. District Court Judge Esther Salas.

Solo and Small-Firm Conference

Feb. 25

This is a must-attend conference for those in solo and small firms. The event is an opportunity to connect

with colleagues and learn strategies and tactics to address the unique challenges these attorneys face. It will also feature advice from experts and peers about running an effective, efficient and sustainable practice.

Minorities in the Profession Section

Black History Month Celebration

Feb. 28, 6-8:30 p.m.

The Minorities in the Profession Section of the NJSBA will host its annual Black History Month Contest for New Jersey high school students to showcase their knowledge and writing. The celebration will also spotlight artists and state Supreme Court Justice Fabiana Pierre-Louis will give a keynote address.

Winter Conference

March 9

NJICLE will host a special one-day virtual conference where attendees can take part in CLE programs on a variety of practice areas and with

speakers who are at the top of the profession.

New Attorney Day

March 11

New attorneys are required to earn 15 credits in five of nine subject areas. Join our New Attorney Day to meet those requirements quickly and easily—in one convenient day. This is a day to learn from veterans in the field about how to launch a successful practice and get strategies that can be put to work right away.

Family Law Retreat

March 22-26

The Family Law Section is headed to Scottsdale, Ariz. to spend time with colleagues, network and learn and to give back to the community. The NJSBA has reserved a block of rooms as the Fairmont Scottsdale Princess. Details are being added daily about the agenda and programs.

Annual Meeting and Convention

May 17-19

The NJSBA will return to Atlantic City in May for its Annual Meeting and Convention, the largest gathering of legal professionals in New Jersey. Thousands of judges, lawyers, law clerks and law students are expected to attend the three-day educational and networking event, held at the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa.

NJSBA Nominating Committee seeks candidates for Cape May County trustee

The New Jersey State Bar Association's Nominating Committee invites members to apply for a vacant position as a Cape May County Trustee on the NJSBA Board of Trustees.

This position is for an unexpired term, and the selected candidate will

serve from the time of nomination until May 2023. The nominated candidate may seek re-nomination at that time for a full two-year term.

To qualify for consideration by the Nominating Committee, candidates must submit a letter/email stating the

intention to seek a specific elective position. After receipt of a letter of intention, a questionnaire will be forwarded to the prospective candidate by email. Completed questionnaires must be received by the committee no later than 5 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 12,

2023. Letters may be emailed to Angela Scheck, Executive Director, at ascheck@njsba.com. Please direct any questions regarding procedure to Ms. Scheck by email or phone at 732-937-7500. ■

2023

BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH

CELEBRATION

Presented by the Minorities in the Profession Section of the NJSBA

Tuesday, Feb. 28 | 6-8:30 p.m. | New Jersey Law Center | FREE EVENT

VISIT NJSBA.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION

NJSBA

NJSBF's High School Mock Trial Program inspiring generations of students, lawyers

The New Jersey State Bar Foundation's annual mock trial competitions are a shining example of how legal and education communities come together to provide interactive learning experiences for high school students outside of the classroom.

Using an original case the NJSBF's Mock Trial Committee prepares, student teams take on the roles of attorneys, witness and jurors and present the case in county courtrooms for the first round of competitions. Regional competitions heat up this winter and the finals are held at the New Jersey Law Center. The winning team represents the state at the National Mock Trial Championship held each spring. The program helps students develop skills in public speaking, critical thinking, and teamwork.

Launched in 1982, the number of teams participating in the Vincent J. Apruzzese High School Mock Trial Competition has grown from 70 to over 200, with more than 3,000 students participating each year. Hundreds of members of the legal community volunteer to coordinate, coach and judge teams across New Jersey.

From Mock Trial witness to judge to coach

Walter Luers, a partner at Cohn Lifland Pearlman Herrmann and Knopf

in Saddle Brook, had the role of witness on the 1991 Bergen Catholic High School mock trial team, the year it won not only the New Jersey state competition but the national championship. For over 10 years he has volunteered as a competition judge and is now coach for his daughter's mock trial team.

"Coaching a team or judging a competition can help reinvigorate an attorney's love and faith in the practice of law. I keep coming back to volunteering for the mock trial program because I think it is important that lawyers show students that a legal career is built not just on hard work

and perseverance, but also on teamwork, cooperation, and public service."

Student interaction at its best

Julie Nugent, an associate at Fox Rothschild in Atlantic City, has been a mock trial volunteer for nearly a decade. She has judged high school competitions, elementary students in the Foundation's the Law Fair Competition and is now the Atlantic County coordinator for local high school competitions.

"Watching students compete is a fun and fulfilling experience. Their enthusiasm reminds me of how great it is to be part of the legal profession."

There are not a lot of opportunities for students of any age to engage directly with members of the local bar, judiciary, and other members of the legal profession. This program provides a way for attorneys and judges to provide insight into the legal profession while giving back to the community in a way that can help shape a young mind."

Volunteering has its rewards

For seven years, **Travis Nunziato**, an associate attorney at Laddey, Clark & Ryan in Sparta, has volunteered as a judge for Sussex and Morris County competitions and coached high school teams. He also serves as the Sussex County coordinator and a judge for Law Fair.

"I volunteer with the mock trial program to give back to the very program that opened my eyes to the legal profession while I was in high school. My high school experience led me to pursue a career in law and fueled my passion for trial work. As long as the mock trial program is around, I will be volunteering in some capacity. Nothing compares to hearing about a student you previously coached moving onto to law school."

To volunteer to be a mock trial coach or judge, visit njsbf.org.



NJSBA President urges swift action to make immigration building more accessible

New Jersey State Bar Association President Jeralyn L. Lawrence penned an urgent plea to the United States General Services Administration (GSA) to reduce the lengthy wait times that force people to stand in the freezing cold by opening up a second entrance to the Peter Rodino Federal Building in Newark. The building houses immigration offices as well as the Social Security office and is where non-detained foreign nationals must go to resolve immigration issues.

"For many years, the lines to enter the Peter Rodino Federal Building have been extremely lengthy, resulting in, at times, as much as a 60-minute wait time before entering," said Lawrence in a letter to the GSA. "However, in the past few months, the line and wait times have gotten worse and are now completely untenable." An NJSBA member attorney witnessed that an hour after people began to line up outside the building, the check-in line remain unchanged and no one had begun to process for-

ign nationals for their matters.

The NJSBA pointed out that the line denies equal access to justice and poses a risk to the health and safety of these individuals. It urged the GSA to immediately open the second entrance to the building and "employ other reasonable solutions" such as a tempo-



CAPITOL REPORT

rorary outdoor structure to shelter people from the cold and elements, like what is done in New York City at the Jacob K. Javits Federal Building.

"No person should have to wait in hour-long lines in the freezing temperatures to enter a building," said Lawrence. "This dangerous and unjust practice, which has become the status quo at the Peter Rodino Federal Building, must end immediately."

Password requirements are onerous, says NJSBA to Judiciary

The NJSBA urged the Judiciary to reconsider its recently announced expansion to the password requirements, which would force people to change the 14-character password every 90 days. The notice to the bar

more difficulties for users than provide additional protections."

The NJSBA noted that protocols are already in place, including a multifactor authentication process. Calling the password change onerous and an unnecessary hurdle, the NJSBA urged consideration to bona fide users by reconsidering implementation of the new password requirements.

The Judiciary issued a weekly schedule in the month of December based on last names to change their eight-character passwords. For more information, visit njcourts.gov.

was issued on Nov. 28 and expands the password length from eight characters to 14.

"We appreciate the need to guard against unauthorized access to the Judiciary systems and to protect the systems against cyber-attack," said Lawrence. "In our law firms and at the NJSBA, we remain vigilant against such intrusions. However, the new Judiciary protocols may actually cause

This is a status report provided by the New Jersey State Bar Association on recently passed and pending legislation, regulations, gubernatorial nominations and/or appointments of interest to lawyers, as well as the involvement of the NJSBA as amicus in appellate court matters. To learn more, visit njsba.com.