

### A New Jersey State Bar Association Resolution Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

**WHEREAS**, it is the mission of the New Jersey State Bar Association to serve as the voice of New Jersey attorneys to other organizations, governmental entities and the public, with regard to the law and the justice system, and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey State Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are already two vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court and an unprecedented third vacancy is looming as Justice Barry T. Albin reaches the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a coequal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, as the voice of New Jersey legal community and on behalf of our citizens, the New Jersey State Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey State Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the New Jersey State Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continue to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I, G. Glennon Troublefield, Secretary of the New Jersey State Bar Association, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution approved by the Board of Trustees. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand as such Secretary and affix the corporate seal of the New Jersey State Bar Association on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.



### An American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, New Jersey Chapter Resolution Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, New Jersey Chapter fully respects and honors the state constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the judiciary; and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained, unacceptable and, at times, historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year; and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy having occurred when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result, causing some courts to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard. This causes delays in justice and yields a human and financial toll on litigants. Divorce trials are suspended leaving children caught in the middle of their parents' often high conflict divorce, parents unable to enjoy parenting time with their children, a parent or child without financial support, and many other hardships and negative consequences suffered by litigants, their children and the public; and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, New Jersey Chapter is dedicated to defending the integrity of the judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, New Jersey Chapter remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, New Jersey Chapter calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continue to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Carolyn W. Daly, President

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers,

New Jersey Chapter



# Resolution By the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies with Qualified Asian Pacific American Attorneys

WHEREAS, Asian Pacific Americans (APA) continue to be the fastest growing minority group in the State of New Jersey and according to the 2020 census, approximately 10% of New Jersey residents are of Asian descent, and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey judiciary should reflect the diversity in the State of New Jersey, including its APA population, and

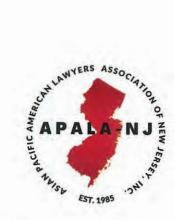
WHEREAS, in the entire history of the State of New Jersey, no APA attorney has been appointed to the New Jersey Supreme Court, and

WHEREAS, APA attorneys continue to be vastly underrepresented in the New Jersey judiciary, and

**WHEREAS**, Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey remains committed to identifying, promoting, and recommending distinguished APA lawyers who have the professional competence, integrity, judicial temperament, and commitment to equal access to the Courts to serve in the judiciary of the State of New Jersey;

**WHEREAS**, the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and



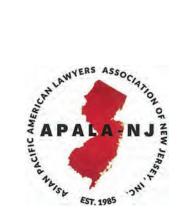
WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of our citizens, the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the diverse citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and



**WHEREAS**, the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**WHEREAS**, the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey urges the Governor and the Senate to consider qualified APA attorneys to fill existing judicial vacancies, including the three vacancies on the New Jersey Supreme Court, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate diverse candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I, Punam P. Alam, President of the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution approved by the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand as such President and affix the corporate seal of the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2022.





### The Garden State Bar Association and Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey Joint Resolution Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

**WHEREAS**, the Garden State Bar Association and Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

**WHEREAS**, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a coequal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Garden State Bar Association and Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey are dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Garden State Bar Association and Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey echo the Governor's and the Senate's commitment to actively seek out and nominate diverse attorneys as we expedite the process of filling judicial vacancies in the State of New Jersey. Born out of the Civil Rights movement in the 1960's, the Garden State Bar Association and Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey have advocated on behalf of marginalized Black and brown citizens of this State for decades on a range of important issues from criminal justice reform, to increasing participation at the ballot box, to advancing and promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the legal profession. Throughout their respective legacies, the Garden State Bar Association and Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey have also diligently offered, and will continue to offer, their support in the necessary work of identifying and promoting the appointment of qualified diverse judicial candidates to the New Jersey bench, and

WHEREAS, in particular, as Organizations focused on advancing the interests of Black judges, lawyers, and law students, the Garden State Bar Association and Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey further highlight the importance of appointing Black judicial candidates to ensure that the bench reflects the New Jersey communities it serves, and

WHEREAS, the Garden State Bar Association and Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey have already recommended a distinguished slate of talented and highly qualified Black attorneys seeking appointment to the New Jersey judiciary.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Garden State Bar Association and Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey call upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I, Natalya G. Johnson, Esq., President of the Garden State Bar Association, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand as such President on this 29th day of July, 2022.

Natalya G. Johnson, Esq., President, The Garden State Bar Association

Natalya f

Kinhely & Seal

I, Kimberly Deal, Esq., President of the Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand as such President on this 29th day of July, 2022.

Kimberly D. Deal. Esq., President, Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey



### ATLANTIC COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

**WHEREAS**, the Atlantic County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

**WHEREAS**, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

**WHEREAS,** New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a coequal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of our citizens, the Atlantic County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Atlantic County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Atlantic County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.



BERGEN
COUNTY
BAR
ASSOCIATION

### OFFICERS:

JASON E. FOY President

WILLIAM L STRASSER President-Elect

LAURA C. SUTNICK 1st Vice President

CYNTHIA A. PETROWSKY 2nd Vice President

JAMES B. SEPLOWITZ

GEOFFREY D. MUELLER Secretary

#### TRUSTEES:

FRANCES E. BARTO
CRAIG P. BOSSONG
LOUIS L. D'ARMINIO
JASON R. FINKELSTEIN
JESSICA A. GOMPERTS
IRA C. KAPLAN
KEVIN P. KELLY
JULIE L. KIM
NICOLE G. MCDONOUGH
JOSEPH L. MECCA JR.
SHEILA O'SHEA-CRISCIONE
VICTORIA R. PEKERMAN
JOHN L. SHAHDANIAN II
ASAAD K. SIDDIQI
ANDREW G. TOULAS

EILEEN P. MULROY Immediate Past President

DAVID EDELBERG NJSBA Trustee

KALI A. TRAHANAS Young Lawyers Trustee

JACQUELINE GUÊNÉGO Executive Director

THE GEORGE W. NEWMAN LAW BUILDING

15 BERGEN STIREET HACKENSACK, NJ 07601 201-488-0044 FAX: 201-488-0073 www.bengenber.org WHEREAS, the Bergen County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents' contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Bergen County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Bergen County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I, James B. Seplowitz, Officer of the Bergen County Bar Association, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution approved by the Board of Trustees. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand as such Secretary and affix the corporate seal of the Bergen County Bar Association on this 344 day of July 2022.





### A Burlington County Bar Association Resolution Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

WHEREAS, the Burlington County Bar Association fully respects and honors the State Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the State Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the State, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Burlington County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Burlington County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Burlington County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I, Brenda Roman Maneri, President of the Burlington County Bar Association, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution approved by the Board of Trustees. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand as such President of the Burlington County Bar Association on this 12th day of July, 2022.

Brenda Pomán Manui: Brenda Roman Maneri

### 1702 Haddonfield-Berlin Road Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003



T 856.482.0620 • F 856.482.0637 camdencountybar.org

July 26, 2022

Officers

President

Rachael B. Brekke

President-Elect Craig D. Becker

Vice President Matthew T. Rooney

**Treasurer** Thomas A. Hagner

Secretary Jeanette Kwon

Member At Large Timothy S. Farrow

**Executive Director** Kimberly Arroyo

**Board of Trustees** 

2023

Michelle Altieri Kevin M. Costello Amir Goodarzi-Panah Brian Herman

2024 Nancianne Aydelotte Daniel DeFiglio Carly K. Ferro Scott J. Levine Daniel L. Mellor

2025 Jose A. Calves Erin S. Deitz Edward P. Epstein Christopher Keating Michael J. Ward, IV

**Young Lawyer Trustee** Paige Joffe

**New Jersey State Bar** 

Trustee Gregory P. DeMichele

**Immediate Past** President

Dawnn E. Briddell

Enclosed.

Governor Phil Murphy

The State House P.O. Box 001

Trenton, NJ 08625

Judicial Vacancies Resolution RE:

Dear Governor Murphy:

Enclosed please find the Camden County Bar Association's Resolution dated July 26, 2022, in support of filling New Jersey's unprecedented number of judicial vacancies. The current level of judicial vacancies affects every aspect of our justice system in Camden County. Our legal practitioners and residents have endured the rippling effect of judicial vacancies for far too long.

As you know, the Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee (JPAC) provides an invaluable resource for the appointment process and must be respected while we work towards filling the judicial vacancies in Camden County. While we urge you to act with expediency, we must also emphasize the quality and caliber of our bench is of the utmost importance. Camden County's JPAC stands ready to review all considerations and provide recommendations for appointments during this important process.

Please act with urgency to address the judicial vacancy crisis in New Jersey and take the steps necessary to act with due diligence for all judicial appointments.

Thank you for your anticipated action.

Very truly yours,

Rachael B. Brekke, Esquire

President, Camden County Bar Association

**ABA Delegate** Richard A. DeMichele, Jr.

### Resolution Supporting Prompt Action to Fill New Jersey Judiciary Vacancies

**WHEREAS**, the Camden County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

**WHEREAS**, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

**WHEREAS,** New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of our citizens, the Camden County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

**WHEREAS**, the Camden County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Camden County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Rachael B. Brekke, Esquire

President, Camden County Bar Association

Dated: July 26, 2022



# BAR ASSOCIATION

9 North Main Street, Cape May Court House, New Jersey 08210

### RESOLUTION 01-2022

WHEREAS, the Cape May County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Cape May County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Cape May County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Cape May County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Duly adopted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors on July 20, 2022.

Louis DeLollis, President

Pamela M. Kaithern, Executive Director

### **CUMBERLAND COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**

### BOARD RESOLUTION APPROVING PROMPT JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

WHEREAS, the Cumberland County Bar Association fully respects and honors the State Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our Judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's Court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained, unacceptable and, at times, historically high number of vacancies on the State Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more Judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some Courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely, leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents' contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the State, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the Judges who are sitting to ensure the

justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Cumberland County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

**WHEREAS**, the Cumberland County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cumberland County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to act promptly to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically, that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all Judges who have served the State ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

**ADOPTED** pursuant to the By-Laws of the Cumberland County Bar Association on this, the 15th day of July, 2022.

Executed by the President of the Board of the Cumberland County Bar Association on this, the 15th day of July, 2022.

APPROVED:

Tariq H. Chaudhri

TOH. L

President, Cumberland County Bar Association

### CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution presented to, and adopted by, the Board of the Cumberland County Bar Association on July 7, 2022, at which time a quorum reviewed and voted on the same; that the officers named in said resolution have been duly-elected or appointed, and are the present incumbents of the respective offices set after their respective names; and that the signatures set above their respective names are their true and genuine signatures.

m Barfield

Secretary, Cumberland County Bar Association



## ESSEX COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION CONCERNING JUDICIAL VACANCIES

**WHEREAS**, the Essex County Bar Association is the voice of Essex County attorneys on matters of the law, the legal system, and the legal profession; and

WHEREAS, the Essex County Bar Association fully respects and honors the New Jersey State Constitutional mandates listed in Article VI, Section VI, paragraphs 1 and 3, providing that the Governor nominate and appoint Judges of the Superior Court; and

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution further provides that these nominations shall be with the advice and consent of the New Jersey Senate; and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded; and

WHEREAS the Essex County Bar Association supports a thorough evaluation of the fitness and qualifications of nominees for the Superior Court of New Jersey as well as "re-nomination" tenure appointments because of the enormous discretionary power vested in judges; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal independent branch of government, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, the Essex County Bar Association is dedicated to protecting the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Essex County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Essex County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, although appreciative of the recent judicial appointments, the Essex County Bar Association urges the Governor and Senate to take immediate action on additional Essex County judicial candidates in order to resolve the ongoing crisis that will surely worsen if the ever-increasing judicial vacancies remain unfilled; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Essex County Bar Association commits to working cooperatively and diligently with all stakeholders involved in the identification, evaluation, and vetting of judges and judicial nominees; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Essex County Bar Association calls on attorneys, legal organizations, and all interested Essex County residents to contact elected leaders in the Executive and Legislative Branches urging prompt action on all Essex County judicial nominees.

July 13, 2022

Shoshana Schiff, President Essex County Bar Association

SHOSHANA SCHIFF PRESIDENT **WHEREAS**, the Gloucester County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

**WHEREAS**, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Gloucester County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Gloucester County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Gloucester County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I, Susan M. Purvin, Secretary of the Gloucester County Bar Association, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution approved by the Board of Trustees. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand as such on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2022.



**WHEREAS**, the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

**WHEREAS**, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of our citizens, the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

**WHEREAS**, the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Tabatha L. Castro, Esq.

Jecastro



### A Hudson County Bar Association Resolution Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

WHEREAS, the Hudson County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a coequal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Hudson County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Hudson County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Hudson County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Richard J. Villanova, Esq.

President, Hudson County Bar Association

Attest:

/s/ Corey J. Gaul

Corey J. Gaul, Esq.

Recording Secretary



### A Hunterdon County Bar Association Resolution Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

**WHEREAS**, the Hunterdon County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a coequal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of our citizens, the Hunterdon County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Hunterdon County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I, Scott Wilhelm, President of the Hunterdon County State Bar Association, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution approved by the Board of Trustees on or before this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.

Scott Wilhelm, Esq.

WHEREAS, the Mercer County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Mercer County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

**WHEREAS**, the **Mercer County Bar Association** remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the **Mercer County Bar Association** calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.



### MIDDLESEX COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

87 Bayard Street New Brunswick, NJ 08901 (732) 828-3433/Fax (732) 828-5862



### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County Bar Association ("MCBA") is a professional association whose mission and goals include providing a proactive voice to represent the views, interests and concerns of the legal community of Middlesex County on all issues affecting the practice of law and administration of justice;

WHEREAS, the MCBA is governed by a Board of Trustees ("BOT") which is called upon regularly to make decisions concerning the interests of the MCBA's members and its mission and goals;

WHEREAS, the MCBA fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

MCBA Resolution Re: Judicial Appointments July 20, 2022 Page 2

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of our citizens, the MCBA is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

**AND WHEREAS**, the MCBA remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the MCBA calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Officers and Board of Trustees of the Middlesex County Bar Association.

John 7. Gillick John F. Gillick

President July 20, 2022



### RESOLUTION OF THE MONMOUTH BAR ASSOCIATION

**WHEREAS**, the Monmouth Bar Association whose purpose and objective is to promote the administration of justice and uniformity of legislation and of judicial decision throughout the County of Monmouth and the State of New Jersey and uphold the honor of the profession of the law;

WHEREAS, the Monmouth Bar Association is governed by its Officers and Trustees, who are called upon regularly to make decisions concerning the interests of the Monmouth Bar Association's members and its mission and goals;

WHEREAS, the Monmouth Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents' contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Monmouth Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, and although Monmouth County does not have the same proportion of judicial vacancies as other counties, that ability for the judicial branch of our government throughout the State is sadly and severely compromised today, and

WHEREAS, the Monmouth Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Officers and Trustees of the Monmouth Bar Association call upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees, and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Officers and Trustees of the Monmouth Bar Association.

Dated: July 25, 2022

F. Bradford Batcha
F. BRADFORD BATCHA, ESQ.
PRESIDENT



# A Morris County Bar Association Resolution Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

**WHEREAS**, the **Morris County Bar Association** fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

**WHEREAS**, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

**WHEREAS,** New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

**WHEREAS**, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of our citizens, the **Morris County Bar Association** is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

**WHEREAS**, the **Morris County Bar Association** remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Morris County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Angela M. Scafuri, Esq.

Dated: July 14, 2022

President Morris County Bar Association

## Resolution of the New Jersey Women Lawyers Association Urging Prompt Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Women Lawyers Association (NJWLA) is an independent association of more than 2,000 members whose mission is to advance and retain women of all backgrounds in the legal profession through education and activism, to promote qualified women to the highest levels of, among other areas, the government, and to endorse qualified female attorneys for appointments and reappointments to the state and federal judiciary; and

WHEREAS, the NJWLA is a critical voice on all issues of importance to women engaged in the practice of law in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the NJWLA fully respects and honors the Constitution of this State, including Article VI, Section VI, paragraphs 1 and 3, which mandate that the Governor shall nominate and appoint members of the judiciary with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judiciary is crucial to the success of and public confidence in our court system; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey judiciary currently has a deleterious number of vacancies across the State in several different courts; and

WHEREAS, the shortage of judges in courts across the State at every level of the judiciary has materially delayed, and in some instances denied, access to justice for litigants, thereby impeding the NJWLA members' ability to practice law at their highest and best levels; and

WHEREAS, this delayed process has prevented some female judges from securing reappointment and tenure, and has negatively impacted the judicial candidacy of many other female attorneys who are ready, willing and qualified to serve on the New Jersey bench; and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill the judicial vacancies in a timely manner deprives the judiciary, a co-equal branch of government, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the NJWLA urges the Governor and the Senate to act promptly to fulfill their Constitutional duties, and specifically for the Senate to hold hearings to fill judicial vacancies and provide its advice and consent to the Governor on all judicial nominees, and the Governor to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the State ably to ensure that our strong and independent judiciary—the third and co-equal branch of government—is preserved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the NJWLA urges the Governor and the Senate to continuously work cooperatively, with input from respected bar associations like the NJWLA, so that meaningful, prompt action may be taken with respect to all pending and future judicial tenure decisions and appointment nominations.

July 26, 2022

Sharmila Jaipersaud

President Elect, New Jersey Women Lawyers Association

me lapersavel



# OCEAN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

MARIANNA C. PONTORIERO President

MATT SAGE President-Elect

CHRISTINE MATUS
Treasurer

ADAM J. STEUERMAN Secretary

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Ocean County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Ocean County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I, Marianna C. Pontoriero, President of the Ocean County Bar Association, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution approved by the Board of Trustees. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand as such President and affix the corporate seal of the Ocean County Bar Association on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.

### OCEAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE POST OFFICE BOX 381 TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 732-240-3666

MICHELE GEOGHEGAN
Executive Director
michele.oceancountyba@gmail.com



# PASSAIC COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

PASSAIC COUNTY COURT HOUSE 401 GRAND STREET, PATERSON, NEW JERSEY 07505 Telephone: (973) 345-4585 ~ Facsimile: (973) 279-6015 www.passaicbar.org

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Passaic County Bar Association to serve as the voice of Passaic County attorneys to other organizations, governmental entities, and the public, with regard to the law and the justice system; and

WHEREAS, the Passaic County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary; and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey (and in particular, Passaic County) has had a sustained unacceptable and historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year; and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts, including Passaic County Superior Court, have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public; and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Passaic County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today; and

WHEREAS, the Passaic County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the **Passaic County Bar Association** calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022, by the Passaic County Bar Association Board of Trustees.

Stephen T. Raff

Stephen T. Raff, Esq.

President, Passaic County Bar Association

# A Salem County New Jersey Bar Association Resolution Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

**WHEREAS**, the **Salem County Bar Association** fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

**WHEREAS**, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

**WHEREAS,** New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Salem County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Salem County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the **Salem County Bar Association** calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Dated: 7-22-2022

Michael J. Napuda, Esq.

President

**WHEREAS**, the **Somerset County Bar Association** fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

**WHEREAS**, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Somerset County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Somerset County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the **Somerset County Bar Association** calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.



# A South Asian Bar Association of New Jersey Resolution Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

WHEREAS, the South Asian Bar Association of New Jersey fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle

of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the South Asian Bar Association of New Jersey is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

**WHEREAS**, the South Asian Bar Association of New Jersey remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the South Asian Bar Association of New Jersey calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I, Rachna B. Malkana, Esq., President of the South Asian Bar Association of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution approved by the Executive Board. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand as such President on this 7th day of July, 2022.

Rachna B. Malkana

Rachna B. Malkana, Esq.



# SUSSEX COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

A Sussex County Bar Association Resolution Urging Action to Fill Judicial Vacancies

**WHEREAS**, the Sussex County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a coequal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of our citizens, the Sussex County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

**WHEREAS**, the Sussex County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Sussex County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Dated:	July 29, 2022	S/KELLY A. SHERWOOD

Kelly A. Sherwood, President of the Sussex County Bar Association

# UNION COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

"Serving the Law and Public Since 1902"

Union County Courthouse, First Floor 2 Broad Street Elizabeth, NJ 07207-3478 (908) 354-5984 Fax (908) 354-8222

Officers

President

HEATHER C. KEITH

Keith Family Law

50 Cardinal Drive, Suite 203

Hestfield, NJ 07090

President-Elect
DERRICK J. DIFRANCESCO
Law Office of Pamela Hargrove
65 Jackson Drive, Suite 302
Cranford, NJ 87016

Vice President SCOTT H. SININS Javerbaum Wurgaft HKW&S 505 Morris Avenue Springfield, NJ 07081 (973) 379-4200

Secretary KINBERLY A. RENNIE

Treasurer NICHOLAS A. GIUDITTA

Parliamentarian JEFFREY M. COHEN

Immediate Past President ANDREW J. GIBBS

Trustees
JARED B. MEISS
DOREEN A. YANIK
NICHAEL T. SINON
MARIANNE ZENBRYSKI
JONATHAN P. ARNOLD
CHRISTOPHER F. STRUBEN
LAURA E. NICOLETTE
BETH C. MANES
THOMAS J. DECATALDO

Past President Trustees
LIZANNE J. CECONI
PRUL J. ENDLER, JR.
JRY LAVROFF

Young Lawyer Trustee LEONARD V. JONES

NJSBA Trustee DAVID L. WIKSTHON

Executive Director
JEFFREY M. CLAR

# RESOLUTION CONCERNING VACANCIES IN THE NEW JERSEY JUDICIARY

WHEREAS, the Union County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of New Jersey's judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly seventy (70) judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

WHEREAS, there are three (3) vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic situation in which some courts have resorted to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants including, but not limited to, postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act, personal injury matters being delayed indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse, divorce trials being suspended leaving parents and their children unable to enjoy parenting time and children being caught in the middle of their parents' contested divorces causing them to suffer great damage, these being among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary – a co-equal branch of government that serves the citizens of the state most directly – of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the sitting judges

to ensure the justice system remains open and available to New Jersey citizens, particularly throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our citizens, the Union County Bar Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Union County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Union County Bar Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties; specifically, the Union County Bar Association calls upon the Senate to hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees, and the Governor to continue to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably, to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Heather C. Keith, President

Dated: July 15, 2022

#### WARREN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

#### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Warren County Bar Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

WHEREAS, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

**WHEREAS,** New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of our citizens, the **Warren County Bar Association** is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Bar Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the **Warren County Bar Association** calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

Mark R. Pec

President

Cristina M. Jones
Executive Virector

Dated: July 25, 2022



1075 Easton Avenue, Suite 11-302 | Somerset, NJ 08873 | NJMLA.com

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Muslim Lawyers Association fully respects and honors the state Constitutional mandate that the Governor nominate and appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, members of the Judiciary, and

**WHEREAS**, the independence and integrity of our judges has been one of the finest achievements resulting from our 1947 State Constitution, and is the foundation upon which the well-deserved reputation of New Jersey's court system is grounded, and

**WHEREAS,** New Jersey has had a sustained unacceptable and at times historically high number of vacancies on the state Superior Court bench with nearly 70 judicial positions left open and many more judges expected to retire before the end of the year, and

**WHEREAS**, there are three vacancies on the seven-member New Jersey Supreme Court with the unprecedented third vacancy occurring when Justice Barry T. Albin reached the age of mandatory retirement on July 6, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the number of current judicial vacancies has created a catastrophic result where some courts have had to resort to limiting the types of matters being heard, causing delays in justice that yield a human and financial toll on litigants, including postponed criminal matters with detained defendants remaining in jail well beyond what is contemplated under New Jersey's Criminal Justice Reform Act; personal injury matters that are on hold indefinitely leaving injured victims with little recourse; divorce trials that are suspended, and parents who are unable to enjoy parenting time with their children as those children are left in the middle of their parents contested divorces, among many other hardships and negative consequences being suffered by litigants and the public, and

WHEREAS, the failure to fill these vacancies in a timely manner deprives the Judiciary, a co-equal branch of government that most directly serves the citizens of the state, of its ability to function as contemplated by the New Jersey Constitution, despite the tireless and heroic efforts of the judges who are sitting to ensure the justice system remained open and available to New Jersey citizens throughout the pandemic, and



# 1075 Easton Avenue, Suite 11-302 | Somerset, NJ 08873 | NJMLA.com

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of our citizens, the New Jersey Muslim Lawyers Association is dedicated to defending the integrity of the Judiciary and speaking out when its ability to fully serve the citizens of New Jersey is compromised, as it is today, and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Muslim Lawyers Association remains willing to assist the Governor and the Senate in any capacity in order to expedite the filling of all existing judicial vacancies and ensuring the judiciary reflects the diversity of the State of New Jersey, and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the New Jersey Muslim Lawyers Association calls upon the Governor and Senate to promptly act to fulfill their Constitutional duties, specifically that the Senate hold hearings and provide its advice and consent on all nominees and that the Governor continues to nominate candidates to fill all existing vacancies and reappoint all judges who have served the state ably to ensure that our strong and independent Judiciary — the third and co-equal branch of government — is preserved.

I, Adam H. Morsy, Esq., President of the New Jersey Muslim Lawyers Association, do hereby certify that the above is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution approved by the Executive Board. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand as such President this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.

Adam H. Morsy, Esq.