

Statement from NJSBA President Jeralyn L. Lawrence on  
RAJEH A. SAADEH v. NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Today's filing seeking to remove 13 diverse and respected attorneys from the highest levels of governance of the New Jersey State Bar Association will be fought with all the strength the NJSBA can muster. Nothing will deter our steadfast conviction that our governing structures must reflect the rich diversity of the legal profession in the state. We will not stand idly by as this attempt is made to silence the important and necessary voices and perspectives of our colleagues.

We are proud of the significant progress we have made over the last three decades. When the Association expanded the Board of Trustees to include at-large seats, our Board was not diverse. Today, more than half of our trustees identify as Black/African-American, Latino/a/x, LGBTQ+, women or Asian-Pacific American. We are committed to ensuring our organization continues to be inclusive and reflective of New Jersey's legal community.