

# THE NJSBA DOCKET



February 23, 2024

## Hello friends,

Welcome to the latest issue of *The NJSBA Docket*, a bi-monthly bulletin with news from the legal community and Association highlights.

Be sure to check out the [calendar](#) for our lineup of educational offerings and networking opportunities. Here's a primer of what we have in store for the coming weeks and the latest court notices from the Judiciary:



## Court Updates

The Supreme Court invites [written comments](#) for the 2022–2024 rules reports of its Civil Practice and Tax Court Committees. Comments are due by March 29.

A [reminder](#) that New Jersey attorneys have until Feb. 29 to complete their annual registration and remit payment without incurring a late fee.

The Judiciary release a [report](#) from its Working Group on Tax Sale Foreclosures.

The Supreme Court plans to expand the Attorney-Conducted Voir Dire [pilot program](#) for criminal matters to Atlantic, Cape May, Burlington and Hudson counties on or after April 1.



## Supreme Court and Appellate Rulings

[Amada Sanjuan v. School District of West New York, Hudson County](#) (Hudson County & Statewide)—Education Law—Arbitration

[In Re Appeal of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Sept. 6, 2022 Denial of Request for Adjudicatory Hearing](#)—Environmental Law

[State of New Jersey vs. Khalil H. Haskins](#) (Camden County and Statewide)—Criminal Law

[Krithiga Sadeeshkumar v. Sadeeshkumar Venugopal](#) (Middlesex County and Statewide)—Family Law—Divorce

[State Shorthand Reporting Services vs. New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development](#)—Employment Law

[Doriana R. Gonzalez, ET AL. vs. Maher Ibrahim, ET AL.](#) (Mercer County and Statewide)—Civil Law—Medical Malpractice

[Chee NG, Ph. D. vs. Fairleigh Dickinson University](#) (Somerset County and Statewide)—Employment Law—Wrongful Termination

[Sackman Enterprises, Inc. vs. Mayor and Council of the Borough of Belmar](#) (Monmouth County and Statewide)—Municipal Law—Planning and Zoning

[State of New Jersey vs. Daishon I. Smith](#) (Monmouth County and Statewide)—Criminal Law

\*Read the opinion summaries [here](#).



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS Judge Lisa P. Thornton and Mel Narol Awards

The NJSBA is accepting nominations for awards in memory of **Judge Lisa P. Thornton** and **Mel Narol**. The awards recognize those who have inspired others to pursue careers in the law and have spearheaded inclusion for women and minority lawyers. Submit your nominees by email to **Paula Saha, Senior Managing Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Member Engagement**, at [psaha@njsba.com](mailto:psaha@njsba.com). The deadline for nominations is March 5. Learn more about the award criteria [here](#).



## Solo and Small-Firm Conference Returns on Feb. 24

There's still time to [register](#) for the annual Solo and Small Firm Conference this weekend. Don't miss the CLE event of the year for solo and small-firm attorneys to network and have fun with colleagues. This year's conference features track programming, where attorneys can choose from three different CLE tracks: honing their skills, starting a sustainable practice and growing a firm. [Register here](#).

## FOUNDATION UPDATE

The [New Jersey State Bar Foundation's](#) core belief is that informed citizens are better citizens. From educator trainings and new publications to the mock trial competitions, spring is one of the busiest seasons. Here are items to share. Nominations are being accepted for the Medal of Honor. The law school scholarship portal has opened for students going into their second and third years of law school. A free program, *Fostering a Sense of Belonging*, about best practices in DEI is coming up. And applications are being accepted to serve on the Board of Trustees.



## Registration is Officially Open for the NJSBA Annual Meeting and Convention

Early-bird registration for the Annual Meeting and Convention on May 15–17 is now available. Those who register by March 15 can save 10% off regular pricing. As valued members of the NJSBA, now is the time to secure your spot at the largest annual event of the New Jersey legal community and take advantage of top-notch educational programming at the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa. Learn more and [register here](#).



## The Member Assistance Program is here to help

For any member in need of mental health and wellness support, the NJSBA's [Member Assistance Program](#) (MAP) is on call 24-hours a day to connect you with a counselor or library of wellness resources. In the last six months alone, the service has received nearly 1,500 phone calls from members and their dependents for issues ranging from anxiety and depression to substance. The practice of law is a demanding profession that can weigh heavily on your mental health and well-being. It's never too early or too late to seek help. Tune into a [free lunchtime webinar](#) hosted by MAP on Feb. 29 about maintaining healthy family and work relationships.

Whether you are a law student just starting out, a mid-career professional looking to reinvigorate your practice, or an experienced practitioner, the NJSBA has something for you. Join a powerful network of 16,000 legal professionals today. [Learn more here](#).