

THE NJSBA DOCKET



April 5, 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, including [2024 Annual Meeting and Convention](#) information. Here's a primer of what we have in store for the coming weeks, as well as the latest court notices from the Judiciary:



The Docket Now Available on LinkedIn

Followers of the NJSBA's LinkedIn page can subscribe to receive *The NJSBA Docket* in their LinkedIn inbox at the end of every month. [Subscribe today.](#)



Supreme and Appellate Decisions

[Christa Robey and Maureen Reynolds v. SPARC Group, LLC](#) (claiming ascertainable loss under the Consumer Protection Act—Bergen County)

[State v. Donnie E. Harrell](#) (whether a child's video-recorded statement at trial violates the Confrontation Clause—Union County)

[State v. Kalil Cooper](#) (Conspiracy to distribute controlled dangerous substances as a predicate offense to the promotion of organized street crime statute—Union County)

[Esther Ogunyemi vs. Garden State Medical Center](#) (retaliation for reporting sexual harassment, Law Against Discrimination—Monmouth County)

[Raymond G. Morrison Jr. vs. The Willingboro Board of Education](#) (revoking or suspending an educator's teaching certificate—Burlington County)

[State of New Jersey v. Wongyu Jang](#) (requiring that the Law Division schedule and conduct a hearing on a municipal appeal—Essex County)



Legislation to Watch

[A4083 \(Reynolds-Jackson\)/S3009 \(Turner\)](#)—Establishes the John R. Lewis Voter Empowerment Act of New Jersey to prohibit the authority to prescribe or maintain voting or elections policies and practices in ways that would unnecessarily deny or abridge the right to vote.

[A3855 \(Conaway\)/S2964 \(Zwicker\)](#)—Creates standards for independent bias auditing of automated employment decision tools, which includes a requirement for employers who elect to use an automated employment decision tool to undergo a bias audit. This includes testing the tool to assess its predicted compliance with the provisions of the Law Against Discrimination and any other applicable law relating to employment discrimination.

[A4054 \(Murphy\)/S2993 \(McKeon\)](#)—Prohibits motor vehicle liability insurance policies from restricting the full payment of recovery amounts under a covered person's policy.

[A3820 \(Wimberly\)/S2968 \(McKnight\)](#)—Requires the state Attorney General to revise law enforcement use of force policy; implements certain reforms.



Civil and Matrimonial Trial Moratorium Lifted in Passaic County

The Supreme Court announced the long-awaited [resumption of civil and matrimonial trials](#) in the Passaic vicinage, after trials had been suspended since July over a lack of judges. The announcement followed the appointment of a dozen new Superior Court judges in late March, which dropped judicial vacancies in the state to the lowest rate since 2019. Vacancies, however, remain a persistent problem and continue to hamper operations in some counties. The Mercer Vicinage announced it will transfer certain dissolution FM cases to other counties due to its vacancy number. The NJSBA has been a vocal advocate for the Senate and Governor to approve more judges. Read the NJSBA's full statement on the Passaic vicinage [here](#).



Stockton University to Host Panel on Mental Illness in the Legal System

State Supreme Court Justice Lee Solomon will join national and local experts on April 16 for an [online panel](#) about the impact of mental illness on the courts and criminal justice system. The free virtual program will consider related issues affecting the courts, with perspectives from both sides of the bench.



Register for the NJSBA Annual Meeting and Convention

Don't miss the NJSBA's Annual Meeting and Convention on May 15–17. 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](#).

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.](#)