# THE NJSBA DOCKET

November 15, 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 <u>calendar</u> for our lineup of educational offerings and networking opportunities. Here's a primer of what we have in store for the coming weeks, as well as the latest court notices from the Judiciary:



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# **News and Notices from the Courts**

- The Judiciary revised the forms for tenants seeking the return of their personal property. The new forms reflect changes in the law that allow judges to direct a landlord to change the locks on a dwelling unit where a victim of domestic violence resides.
- The Office of Attorney Ethics seeks <u>attorney</u> <u>applicants</u> for the volunteer position of District Fee Arbitration Committee (DFAC) secretary for DFAC IX, covering Monmouth County.
- The Judiciary designated Nov. 29, the day after Thanksgiving, as a <u>court recess day</u> for emergent matters only.
- The state Supreme Court released the <u>Judiciary</u> <u>Policy on Judges' Use of Social Media</u>. The policy is effective immediately and applies to all



# Supreme Court and Appellate Decisions

- <u>Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office vs. Office</u> of the Attorney General—The Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office appealed the Office of the Attorney General's decision not to represent the town in an action filed by a retired Marlboro deputy police chief.
- <u>State of New Jersey vs. Stephanie Hand (Essex</u> <u>County and Statewide</u>)—The panel considered whether the state Supreme Court's holding in <u>State v. Jackson</u> should have full retroactive application in the defendant's petition for postconviction relief. <u>State v. Jackson</u> held that the Sixth Amendment allows a defendant to crossexamine a cooperating co-defendant with respect to their maximum sentencing exposure prior to

state and municipal court judges.

 The Judiciary added three new case types for the <u>Civil Case Information Statement</u>—election law, civil commitment expungement and affordable housing.



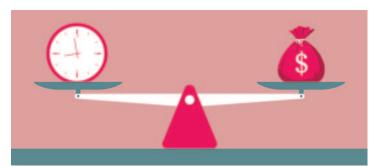
### **Legislative Update**

The NJSBA supports the following bills in the state Legislature:

<u>S2437 (Pou)/A4471 (Ramirez)</u>—A bill that directs the Office of the Public Defender to provide legal representation for certain criminal contempt violations.

<u>S421 (Pennacchio)</u>—Dubbed the "Uniform Electronic Wills Act," the measure authorizes electronic wills. The NJSBA supported this bill with amendments.

<u>S3772 (Lagana)</u>—An NJSBA-drafted bill concerning the valuation of board and lodging with respect to workers' compensation.



#### Help Reclaim Personal Time, Wellness and Work-Life Balance with the NJSBA

All are welcome to attend a <u>special program</u> by the NJSBA's Lawyer Well-Being Committee on Nov. 21 all about time management and work-life balance. TedX speaker and trial attorney David J. Bruno will address the unique challenges New Jersey legal professionals face in managing stress, uncertainty and the relentless demands of the practice. Register for the free program today.



- <u>State of New Jersey vs. Steven W. Italiano (Cape</u> <u>May County and Statewide)</u>—A case of first impression involving a defendant serving several consecutive periods of driver's license suspensions for various convictions, including DWI offenses.
- <u>Parke Bank vs. Voorhees Diner Corporation</u> (<u>Camden County and Statewide</u>)—The panel consolidated appeals in a single opinion addressing the statutory receiver requirements for discharge under the New Jersey Business Corporations Act.
- <u>Alternative Global One vs. David Feingold</u> (<u>Middlesex County and Statewide</u>)—The case examines a discovery dispute involving a nonparty witness.



#### Bar Foundation Launching 13th Annual Art Show, Seeks Mock Trial Volunteers

All are welcome to join the New Jersey State Bar Foundation on Dec. 3 for the opening of the <u>13th</u> <u>Annual Juried Art Exhibit</u> at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick. Works include original poems and artwork spanning several mediums, including watercolors, photography, mixed media, pencil, pen and ink and more. Meet the talented artists and poets from the legal community, congratulate winners, browse works for sale and enjoy a free reception.

For attorneys interested in the annual Vincent J. Apruzzese High School Mock Trial Competition, the Foundation seeks volunteers to serve as an attorney-coach for Newmark High School of Union. Attorney-coaches are eligible to receive up to six NJICLE credits when they attend mock trials with their teams. Interested attorneys should contact Sheila Boro at <u>sboro@njsbf.org</u>.





#### The Member Assistance Program, PracticeHQ are Here to Help

For any member in need of mental health and wellness support, the NJSBA's <u>Member Assistance</u> <u>Program</u> is on call 24-hours a day to connect you with a counselor or library of wellness resources. The practice of law is a demanding profession that can weigh heavily on your mental health and wellbeing. It's never too early or too late to seek help. Those who struggle with procrastination are also invited to a free <u>lunchtime webinar</u> on Jan. 8 presented by PracticeHQ, the NJSBA's practice management and skill-building suite. Get the research-backed strategies and real-world examples to help you beat procrastination.

#### Get Discounts to State Theatre Shows Through the NJSBA

NJSBA members have an exclusive 20% discount to <u>select upcoming shows</u> at State Theatre in New Brunswick. The season includes a diverse range of performances that promise to captivate audiences of all ages. To access the discount, use the promo code NJSBA20 during the ticket purchase process.

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.