

THE NJSBA DOCKET



April 18, 2025

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, as well as the latest court notices from the Judiciary:



The Docket is 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.](#)



News and Notices from the Courts

- The Supreme Court published the [2023–2025 reports](#) of four rules committees, including the Criminal Practice Committee. Comments on the reports are due by May 9.
- The Judiciary seeks public comment on a [proposal](#) for the standardized presentation of electronic media in New Jersey court proceedings. Comments are due by May 2.
- New Jersey attorneys are encouraged to designate a successor to handle clients and other responsibilities, either on a temporary basis or to wind down the attorney's practice. The Judiciary is in the process of updating, expanding and posting [resources](#) to guide attorneys and their successors on succession plans.
- The Court has approved a [new one-credit CLE requirement](#) in technology-related subjects for all New Jersey licensed attorneys. The requirement is intended to strengthen awareness and improve practices of attorneys relative to the risks posed by artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies.



Supreme Court and Appellate Decisions

- [In re Appeal of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's September 6, 2022 Denial of Request for Adjudicatory Hearing \(089182\)\(Statewide\)](#)—The Court considered whether the state Department of Environmental Protection's grant of a waiver suspending certain environmental remediation obligations created a constitutionally protected property interest in that waiver.
- [Laurence J. Rappaport v. Kenneth Pasternak \(088645\) \(Bergen County & Statewide\)](#)—The Court weighed whether a contested arbitration award was properly modified under N.J.S.A. 2A:23B-24(a)(2).
- [Keona Palmer, et al. vs. Flagship Resort Development Corp., Etc. \(Atlantic County and Statewide\)](#)—The appellate panel upheld a jury verdict in favor of 19 plaintiffs who sued a timeshare company for violating the Consumer Fraud Act.
- [State of New Jersey vs. Mohammad Ramadan \(Bergen County and Statewide\)](#)—The appellate panel reversed the trial court's order and dismissed the count of first-degree attempted murder against Mohammad Ramadan.
- [Estate of Leonor R. Dizon, Ect. vs. State of New Jersey \(Union County and Statewide\)](#)—The appellate panel found that the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services' lien against all the estate's assets under the estate asset statute was valid, which included any survivorship action award.
- [Ronald Donnerstag, et al. vs. Heather Koenig \(School Ethics Commission\)](#)—The appellate panel reversed the School Ethics Commission's summary dismissal of count one alleging that Central Regional Board of Education member Heather Koenig's social media post encouraging Board employees to rescind their membership in their labor unions violated N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24.1(e).
- [State of New Jersey vs. Nathaniel H. Russell \(Atlantic County and Statewide\)](#)—The defendant challenged his convictions on counts of terroristic threats, harassment and retaliation against a municipal court judge.
- [Noah Bank, et al. vs. Marie Lee \(Bergen County and Statewide\)](#)—A case of first impression on whether the trial court properly entertained the plaintiffs' motions to dismiss after they had filed an answer to defendant's counterclaim asserting a defense under Rule 4:6-2(e) or whether plaintiffs were required to file the motion prior to filing their answer.
- [State of New Jersey vs. Franck A. Amang \(Camden County and Statewide\)](#)—A question of first impression under New Jersey law, requiring the court to consider the interplay between the right against self-incrimination, the right to privacy in one's home and effects and the right to the assistance of counsel.
- [Penelope Mauer vs. State of New Jersey, et al. \(Mercer County and Statewide\)](#)—A case on whether the indictment of a partner in a law firm, who withdrew his appearance following the indictment, creates a conflict of interest requiring the law firm to be disqualified from representing defendants in New Jersey and other state entities.



Programming Schedule Set for the 2025 NJSBA Annual Meeting and Convention

The 2025 NJSBA Annual Meeting and Convention is the CLE event of the year, with 25 practice area and interest tracks and over 100 programs to peruse. Check out the [array of seminars](#) looking at every aspect of the law facing New Jersey practitioners. View CLE seminars by educational track and register. (All program speakers, dates and times are subject to change.)



NJSBA to Celebrate Diverse Judges on April 30

Join the NJSBA for this [annual celebration](#) of the state's diverse bench. The celebration will honor U.S. District Judge Evelyn Padin and Essex County Assignment Judge Sheila A. Venable with the Justice Thurgood Marshall Award for advancing diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.



#ReaffirmTheOath to Stand Against Attacks on the Rule of Law

In the face of unprecedented attacks against the rule of law and the legal profession, attorneys across the country are encouraged to [renew the lawyer's pledge](#) on or before Law Day on May 1. Check out an [outline](#) designed to assist lawyer groups across the country in organizing a Law Day event.



Senior Lawyers Conference Aids Attorneys Entering the Next Chapter

NJICLE presents its [annual event](#) on May 28 for attorneys approaching retirement to navigate the end of the careers. The conference will address the uncertainties that come with age, how to find renewed passion for your work, new opportunities worth exploring and how to ensure long-term financial security.

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.](#)