

THE NJSBA DOCKET



June 13, 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:



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News and Notices from the Courts

- The Judiciary issued [two new forms](#) to be used statewide in all Family Court dockets when the court appoints a guardian ad litem for minor children.
- The state Supreme Court invites [written comments](#) on whether New Jersey should adopt the NextGen exam as a replacement for the state's existing bar examination format. Comments are due by July 7.
- The U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey has launched a learning center [website](#) to increase civic knowledge, promote active citizenship and provide accessible resources for educators and students.



Supreme Court and Appellate Decisions

- [M.A. v. J.H.M. \(Passaic County and Statewide\)](#)—The Supreme Court ruled that a defendant in a Prevention of Domestic Violence Act final restraining order may invoke the privilege against self-incrimination in response to specific questions that raise reasonable risks of self-incrimination, and when no adverse inference may be drawn from the exercise of that right.
- [In re Opinion No. 735 of the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Professional Ethics](#)—The Court found that the practice of purchasing a competitor's name as a keyword does not constitute a violation of the RPCs. However, the Court required that attorneys employing this strategy include a clear and conspicuous disclaimer on the landing page of their website when a user clicks on such a paid advertisement.
- [State of New Jersey vs. Jakil J. Bryant \(Middlesex County and Statewide\)](#)—The defendant appealed the denial of his motion to suppress a gun that police found after opening his companion's backpack without a search warrant.
- [State of New Jersey vs. K.H. \(Atlantic County and Statewide\)](#)—The Appellate Division affirmed the defendant's convictions for aggravated sexual assault and burglary but vacated his extended-term sentence as a persistent offender because his eligibility for the extended term must be decided by a jury, not a judge.
- [State of New Jersey vs. Maurice E. Johnson \(Cumberland County and Statewide\)](#)—The Appellate Division considered a novel constitutional question arising from the execution of a communications data warrant that authorized the surreptitious installation of a global positioning system device on a vehicle to electronically monitor its movements.
- [Allen J. Satz vs. Keshet Starr \(Bergen County and Statewide\)](#)—A case involving a plaintiff who sued defendants after they circulated a flyer advocating he give his wife a religious divorce.
- [Pamela J. Graziadei vs. Capital Health Systems, Inc. \(Mercer County and Statewide\)](#)—A nurse and acknowledged alcoholic filed a complaint in the Law Division alleging defendants discriminated against her because of her alcoholism, and an amended complaint alleging defendants retaliated against her for filing the complaint, in violation of the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination.



Celebrate Juneteenth with the Minorities in the Profession Section

All are welcome at the New Jersey Law Center on June 18 to commemorate [Juneteenth](#). Show off your historical knowledge in an evening of trivia, celebration and fellowship among the greater New Jersey legal community and beyond.



Nominations Needed for 2025 Pro Bono Awards

Know someone with outstanding pro bono credentials? [Submit your nominees today](#) for the NJSBA Pro Bono Committee's 2025 annual awards, presented to members of the legal profession who go above and beyond in providing legal services to the state's underserved residents. The deadline to submit nominations is June 27.



NJICLE Multicounty (Mass Torts) Litigation Forum Returns for 2025

NJICLE presents an [innovative program](#) on June 17 that will advance your insight into the various aspects of litigation in the mass torts arena. Learn strategies from a distinguished panel of judges on how to effectively move your case to trial, while exploring the limits of bankruptcy and the 7th Amendment in mass torts litigation from an esteemed panel.



NJSBA Nominating Committee Seeks Candidates for Warren County Trustee

The New Jersey State Bar Association's Nominating Committee invites members to apply for a [vacant position](#) as the Warren County Trustee on the NJSBA Board of Trustees. This position is for an unexpired term, and the selected candidate will serve from the time of nomination until May 2026. The deadline to apply is June 25.

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.](#)