

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 22

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of New Jersey assigns to the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, responsibility for nominating judges to serve in our State Judiciary; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has historically relied on guidance and counsel from former judges and respected legal practitioners in the process of reviewing potential judicial nominees and making judicial appointments; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 36 (2006), as amended by Executive Order No. 32 (2010) and by Executive Order No. 16 (2018), formalized this practice by establishing a Judicial Advisory Panel comprised of former jurists and practicing attorneys to evaluate candidates for positions on New Jersey's State courts and provide the Governor with recommendations regarding those candidates' qualifications and fitness to serve as judges; and

WHEREAS, the Governor will continue to rely on the Judicial Advisory Panel in considering candidates for judgeships on the Superior Court of New Jersey and the Supreme Court of New Jersey;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKIE SHERRILL, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. Executive Order No. 36 (2006), as modified by Executive Order No. 32 (2010) and Executive Order No. 16 (2018), which set forth the purpose and role that the Judicial Advisory Panel shall have in the Governor's process of evaluating judicial appointment candidates, is hereby continued and shall remain in full force and effect except as expressly provided by this Order.

2. Paragraph 2 of Executive Order No. 32 (2010), which amended the composition of the Judicial Advisory Panel as established by paragraph 8 of Executive Order No. 36 (2006), shall

be superseded by this paragraph. The Judicial Advisory Panel will be comprised of eight (8) members. The Panel shall include no fewer than five (5) former judges. The Panel may include practicing attorneys who shall not otherwise serve concurrently as a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association's Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee. The Governor shall designate the Chair, who shall be responsible for the overall administration of the Panel's responsibilities and establishing its procedures for candidate evaluation.

3. All other provisions of Executive Order No. 36 (2006), as modified by Executive Order No. 16 (2018), shall remain in full force and effect.

4. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
31st day of August,
Two Thousand and Twenty-Six,
and of the Independence of
the United States, the Two
Hundred and Fifty-First.

[seal]

/s/ Mikie Sherrill

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Timothy P. Lydon

Chief Counsel to the Governor