

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

It is ORDERED that the attached amendments to Rules 1:28-1 (“Purpose; Administration; Appointments”) (regarding the New Jersey Lawyers’ Fund for Client Protection) and 1:28B-1 (“Board of Trustees; Purpose; Administration; Annual Assessment”) (regarding the New Jersey Lawyers Assistance Program) of the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey are adopted to be effective immediately.

For the Court,



Chief Justice

Dated: May 18, 2026

1:28-1. Purpose; Administration; Appointments

(a) Administration. ...no change

(b) Qualification, Terms of Trustees. [The original appointment shall be of one trustee for a one-year term, one for a 2-year term, one for a 3-year term, one for a 4-year term and one for a 5-year term. At the expiration of such terms all subsequent appointments shall be for a term of 5 years, and no trustee who has served a full 5-year term shall be eligible for immediate reappointment.] Trustees shall be appointed for five-year terms. A vacancy occurring during a term shall be filled for the unexpired portion thereof. No trustee who has served two full five-year terms shall be eligible for reappointment. Five trustees shall be members of the bar of this State; and two members shall not be attorneys.

(c) Organization; Meetings. ...no change

(d) Regulations. ...no change

(e) Reimbursement. ...no change

(f) Immunity. ...no change

Note: Source – R.R. 1:22A-1(a) (b) (c) (d) (e); paragraphs (a) (b), and (c) amended and paragraph (f) adopted June 29, 1990 to be effective September 4, 1990; paragraph (a) amended July 14, 1992 to be effective September 1, 1992; paragraphs (a) and (b) amended May 3, 1994 to be effective immediately; paragraph (c) amended June 28, 1996 to be effective September 1, 1996; paragraph (b) amended May 18, 2026 to be effective immediately.

1:28B-1. Board of Trustees; Purpose; Administration; Annual Assessment

(a) Appointments. A Board of Trustees shall oversee the financial operation and administration of the New Jersey Lawyers Assistance Program (LAP) by the New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA). The Supreme Court shall appoint eight of the nine members of the Board. At least five of the Trustees appointed by the Supreme Court shall be members of the bar of this State. [The initial Trustees shall be appointed to terms of one, two, or three years. At the expiration of such terms, all subsequent appointments and reappointments shall be for a term of three years.] Trustees shall be appointed for three-year terms. [No Trustee who has served four full three-year terms shall be eligible for immediate reappointment.] A vacancy occurring during a term shall be filled for the unexpired portion thereof. No Trustee who has served four full three-year terms shall be eligible for reappointment. The Court shall annually designate members of the Board of Trustees to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair.

In addition to the Trustees appointed by the Supreme Court, the President of the New Jersey State Bar Association or a designee shall serve as an ex officio member of the Board. The Administrative Director of the Courts, or a designee, shall serve, ex officio, as Treasurer of the LAP.

(b) Purpose; Administration. ...no change

(c) Meetings. ...no change

(d) Compensation. ...no change

(e) Annual Assessment. ... no change

Note: Adopted July 15, 1999, to be effective September 1, 1999; caption amended and new paragraph (e) added July 12, 2002 to be effective September 3, 2002; paragraph (b) amended February 4, 2003 to be effective immediately; paragraph (e) amended July 28, 2004 to be effective September 1, 2004; paragraph (a) amended December 5, 2006 to be effective immediately; paragraph (e) amended November 27, 2007 to be effective immediately; paragraph (e) amended July 23, 2010 to be effective September 1, 2010; paragraph (a) amended May 18, 2026 to be effective immediately.