

Notice to the Bench and Bar

Regionalization of Legal Services Offices

Please be advised that effective January 1, 2003, the fourteen current Legal Services Offices operating under the umbrella of Legal Services of New Jersey, Inc. will be reorganized and merged into six regional offices as follows:

Bergen County Legal Services and Hudson County Legal Services will become **Northeast New Jersey Legal Services** and will serve Bergen, Hudson, and Passaic Counties;

Legal Aid Society of Morris County, Somerset-Sussex Legal Services, Hunterdon County Legal Services, and Warren County Legal Services will become **Legal Services of Northwest Jersey** and will serve Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties;

Cape-Atlantic Legal Services and Camden Regional Legal Services will become **South Jersey Legal Services** and will serve Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties;

Legal Aid Society of Mercer County, Middlesex County Legal Services, and Union County Legal Services will become **Central Jersey Legal Services** and will serve Mercer, Middlesex, and Union Counties;

Essex-Newark Legal Services will continue to operate under that name and will serve Essex County; and

Ocean-Monmouth Legal Services, Inc. will continue to operate under that name and will serve Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

Please note, however, that the **Passaic County Legal Aid Society** will continue to operate under that name at its current address independently of Legal Services of New Jersey, Inc.

All of the existing Legal Services offices will remain open at the same addresses and telephone numbers, though most will be operating under a different name, as noted above. Although notices and correspondence should be addressed and directed to the appropriate local office under its new regional name, each local office will continue to accept notices and correspondence directed to the office under its prior name. Since the entity will be essentially the same, with the same attorneys, at the same addresses (though some operating under a new regional office name), there will be no need for blanket orders of substitution of attorney, though a court may require that route to be followed in individual cases as appropriate.

Richard J. Williams, J.A.D.
Administrative Director of the Courts
Dated: January 2, 2003