

New Jersey Courts

NOTICE TO THE BAR

Order -- Designation of Judge John Colannino as Monmouth Vicinage Municipal Court Presiding Judge

It is ORDERED, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:12-9, that Municipal Court Judge John G. Colannino is designated as the Presiding Judge—Municipal Courts for Vicinage 9 (Monmouth), effective January 1, 2007, and until further Order; and

It is FURTHER ORDERED that under the direction of the Vicinage 9 Assignment Judge, Presiding Judge—Municipal Courts John G. Colannino will supervise the Vicinage 9 Municipal Division and oversee all Municipal Courts within the Vicinage. The Presiding Judge—Municipal Courts and the Municipal Division Manager shall form the executive component of the Vicinage 9 Municipal Division within the Judiciary's management structure; and

It is FURTHER ORDERED that Presiding Judge—Municipal Courts John G. Colannino is hereby delegated authority, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:12-9, to exercise the powers necessary to perform the following administrative duties within Vicinage 9:

1. Be responsible for the implementation and enforcement, within the municipal courts, of all administrative rules, policies and directives of the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice, the Administrative Director and the Vicinage Assignment Judge;
2. Monitor compliance with the provisions of R. 7:6-2(d), regulating the municipal court plea agreement process, including the proper downgrading of matters heard in the various municipal courts;
3. Provide mentoring services to new and experienced municipal court judges;
4. Provide substantive and procedural training for municipal court judges on topics directed at improving the administration of justice, including but not limited to domestic violence, sentencing, search and seizure, plea agreements, bail procedures, evidence, administrative responsibilities, case management techniques (including those related to driving under the influence) and other topics as appropriate;
5. Coordinate and oversee the emergency availability of municipal court judges to handle bail, domestic violence or other emergent matters within the jurisdiction of the municipal court;
6. Perform in-court session visitations, with follow-up municipal court judge mentoring, as necessary, to insure the uniform application of the highest standards of justice in processing each case brought before the court;
7. Monitor the uniformity and efficiency of case management in the municipal courts and identify methods for eliminating backlogs and efficiently processing all cases;
8. Monitor the annual municipal court budget process, prior to and following submission to the Assignment Judge, to insure that upon adoption of the budget, each municipal court will have sufficient resources to operate properly;
9. Manage the resolution of citizen, attorney or other grievances concerning the operation or administration of the municipal courts within the vicinage;
10. Implement policies, procedures and programs established by the Vicinage Assignment Judge;
11. Perform other management and supervisory duties when assigned by the Vicinage Assignment Judge; and

It is FURTHER ORDERED that Presiding Judge—Municipal Courts John G. Colannino is hereby delegated authority, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:12-9, to exercise the powers necessary to perform the following judicial duties within Vicinage 9:

1. Conduct initial appearances at the Monmouth County Jail Courtroom on all inmates committed to the Monmouth County Jail based on Grand Jury action and review the bail on all other temporary commitments of inmates to the Monmouth County Jail;
2. Conduct involuntary civil commitment hearings, when necessary, at designated hospitals; and
3. Preside over matters within the jurisdiction of the municipal courts, when designated by the Vicinage Assignment Judge, pursuant to law and the Rules of Court.

James R. Zazzali

Chief Justice

Dated: December 21, 2006

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