

NOTICE TO THE BAR

LANDLORD TENANT -- RELAXATION OF COURT RULES (1) TO ALIGN WITH CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS OF RECENT LEGISLATION; AND (2) TO PERMIT LIMITED APPEARANCE TO REVIEW CASE FILE

Effective December 1, 2021, N.J.S.A. 2A:42-144 to 2A:42-148 established confidentiality standards for certain landlord tenant cases arising out of non-payment or habitually late payment of rent owed between March 9, 2020 and August 3, 2021. Accordingly, the Supreme Court in the attached January 4, 2022 Order has relaxed the provisions of Rule 1:38 ("Public Access to Court and Administrative Records") so as to align with that legislation and to reflect the removal of those records from public access.

The Court has also expanded the existing relaxation of Rule 1:11-2(c) ("Appearance by Attorney for Client Who Previously Had Appeared Pro Se") to permit an attorney providing short-term limited legal services to a client in a residential landlord tenant case to enter a limited appearance to review the case file before undertaking representation. Any such limited appearance must be filed through eCourts and will be noted in the eCourts case jacket. As set forth in the Court's January 4, 2022 Order, an attorney who enters such a limited appearance is not required to pay a filing fee.

Questions on this notice should be directed to the Administrative Office of the Courts Civil Practice Division at (609) 815-2900 x54900 or the Superior Court Clerk's Office at (609) 421-6100.



Glenn A. Grant
Administrative Director of the Courts

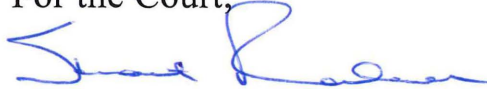
Dated: January 11, 2022

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

Pursuant to N.J. Const., Art. VI, sec. 2, par. 3, IT IS ORDERED that effective immediately and pending further order:

1. The provisions of Rule 1:38 (“Public Access to Court and Administrative Records”) and any other applicable rules are relaxed and supplemented so as to align with L. 2021, c. 189, codified as N.J.S.A. 2A:42-144 to -148, which took effect on December 1, 2021 and established confidentiality standards for certain landlord tenant cases arising out of non-payment or habitually late payment of rent owed between March 9, 2020 and August 3, 2021.
2. Rule 1:11-2(c) (“Appearance by Attorney for Client Who Previously Had Appeared Pro Se”), which was relaxed by Order dated September 30, 2020, is further relaxed and supplemented to permit an attorney providing short-term limited legal services to a client in a residential landlord tenant case to enter a limited appearance to review the case file before undertaking representation. An attorney filing a limited appearance pursuant to this Order shall not be required to pay a filing fee pursuant to Rule 1:43 (“Filing and Other Fees Established Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:1-7”).
3. These rule relaxations shall remain in effect pending the adoption of conforming rule amendments.

For the Court,



Chief Justice

Dated: January 4, 2022