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**TO: Assignment Judges
Trial Court Administrators**

FROM: Michael J. Blee, J.A.D. *myb*

SUPPLEMENT TO DIRECTIVE

#04-22

Questions or comments may be directed to (609)
815-2900, ext. 54850

SUBJECT: New Electronic New Jersey Bail Recognizance Form

DATE: September 22, 2026

This is a Supplement to Directive #04-22, “Municipal Court Bench Warrants – Immediate Release on Recognizance of Certain Defendants Upon Arrest,” promulgating an electronic version of the New Jersey Bail Recognizance form. This form is for use: 1) by law enforcement agencies with available technology to automate the process, and 2) under circumstances governed by Directive #04-22 and summarized below. The form is effective immediately and a PDF is attached for illustrative purposes.

Directive #04-22 established a procedure to allow for the release of all defendants (except those charged with a domestic violence offense) who are subject to a Municipal Court bench warrant with a bail amount set at \$500 or less and who are unable to post bail or any portion of bail. The directive provides law enforcement officers the authority to effectuate the immediate release of a defendant without the need to seek approval from a judicial officer and without requiring the defendant to sign a completed New Jersey Bail Recognizance form prior to release.

The electronic version of the New Jersey Bail Recognizance form does not include fields for amount of bail received and for non-corporate surety or bail agency information. The defendant is not required to sign the form and the law enforcement officer must certify to personally having served the defendant. The officer must also provide a copy of the form to the Municipal Court that issued the warrant.

All provisions of Directive #04-22 remain in effect, including the requirements for conditions to be satisfied prior to defendant's release: defendant shall provide updated address/contact information; defendant shall be provided date/time to appear before the Municipal Court that issued the warrant; defendant shall be advised that failure to appear may result in the Municipal Court reinstating warrant; and defendant shall be provided with copy of the electronic New Jersey Bail Recognizance form completed by the law enforcement officer, including the officer's name, electronic signature, and certification.

This form shall not be used if the defendant is arrested solely on a CDR-2 (complaint-warrant); is charged with a domestic violence offense; has a bail amount set at an amount larger than \$500; or can post the full amount of bail or a portion of the bail.

The existing, paper New Jersey Bail Recognizance form (four-part document) shall continue to be used by law enforcement in instances where the new, electronic form is not applicable or officers do not have the technology to implement it.

Questions regarding this Supplement should be directed to the Superior Court Clerk's Office at scco.mbx@njcourts.gov or the Municipal Court Services Division at MunicipalCtSvs.Mbx@njcourts.gov.

Attachment

cc: Chief Justice Stuart Rabner
Presiding Judges-Municipal Courts
Steven D. Bonville, Chief of Staff
AOC Directors and Assistant Directors
Special Assistants to the Administrative Director
Julie A. Higgs, Chief, Municipal Ct. Services
Rhonda Crimi, Chief, Municipal Ct. Services
Municipal Division Managers and Assistants
Municipal Court Directors and Administrators



**New Jersey Bail Recognizance
Release on Own Recognizance**
With Waiver of Extradition

Document Origination

Law Enforcement Agency

Case Information

Complaint/Ticket Number

Charge(s)

Where Offense Occurred
Municipality

County

Defendant Information

First Name

M.I.

Last Name

Address (include Apartment Number)

City

State

Zip Code

Email

Phone Number

Date of Birth

Social Security Number

State Bureau of Identification
(SBI) Number

Bail Information

Amount of Bail Set

\$

Date Bail Set

Bail Set By

☒ Released on Own Recognizance

Court Appearance Information

[Municipal Court]

[Address1]

[Address2]

[Address3]

Telephone:

Fax:

Court Date:

Court Time:

You are required to appear at court at the above date and time unless otherwise notified.

The municipal court will send a notice with further details.

Service

☐ I hereby certify that I served the *New Jersey Bail Recognizance Form* by delivering a copy to the Defendant personally.

Print Officer's Name

Date and Time

s/

Signature and Badge Number

Responsibility of Defendant

(a) The Defendant must personally appear at all court proceedings until the final determination of the matter, unless otherwise ordered by the court. If the defendant fails to appear for a Municipal Court proceeding, an **Arrest Warrant** for the defendant may be issued.

(b) The defendant must notify the court immediately in writing of any change of address.

(c) The defendant must notify the court immediately in writing if he or she is detained in jail or prison or otherwise cannot appear at a court proceeding.

(d) If the defendant fails to appear at a scheduled court proceeding and is arrested in another state or jurisdiction, the defendant agrees to waive all rights to extradition proceedings under the New Jersey statutes and the demanding State's or jurisdiction's statutes in regard to extradition law.