

JUDICIARY TIMES

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Drug courts: A form of therapeutic justice

By Judge Glenn A. Grant
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts



Judge
Glenn A. Grant

The work of the New Jersey Judiciary is varied and complex. One important aspect of our work is advancing the safety and well-being of our communities.

We are deeply involved in and committed to what some characterize as “therapeutic justice,” which promotes the concept that the courts should seek to improve lives and society as well as resolve disputes.

Perhaps our best-known therapeutic justice program are our drug courts, which operate within the Superior Court to address nonviolent, drug-addicted offenders. The Judiciary’s drug court program offers a tightly structured regimen of treatment and recovery that provides graduates with the skills needed to stay sober and out of prison so they can remain employed, continue their education and contribute to society again.

Drug courts have proven to be successful in breaking the cycle of drug abuse and crime by combining treatment programs with strict supervision. Judges, attorneys, substance abuse evaluators, treatment professionals and specially trained probation officers on the drug court team work closely with participants to provide them with every opportunity to achieve and maintain sobriety and employment.

Since its inception, more than 3,600 participants have graduated from the program.

A total of 632 drug-free babies have been born since the program began, and 200 parents have regained custody of their children.

Drug court graduates are more likely to stay out of prison. Only 7 percent of participants who complete the program are rearrested and convicted on an indictable offense three years after graduation as opposed to almost 40 percent of defendants leaving New Jersey state prisons.

The story of one of our graduates, Landon Hacker, was documented in a video posted to our YouTube channel. The video is at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Q6Zk0L5Q8Y.

Our drug courts represent therapeutic justice that give people a chance to get their lives back on track and once again become contributing members of society.

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New clerk of New Jersey Supreme Court announced

Heather J. Baker Succeeds Mark Neary, who retired

By Peter McAleer
Director
Office of Communications and Community Relations

Heather J. Baker is the new clerk of the Supreme Court, effective Nov. 28. The Supreme Court appointed Baker to replace Mark Neary, who retired after 27 years with the Supreme Court Clerk's Office.

"We are fortunate to have someone of Heather's caliber to continue the tradition of fine service provided by the clerk's office under Mark Neary's leadership," said Chief Justice Stuart Rabner. "Like her predecessor, Heather is highly regarded for her professionalism, integrity and thorough command of the critical functions of the Supreme Court."

As the court's chief executive for the administration of Supreme Court operations, the clerk oversees the day-to-day business of the state's highest court, including the processing of thousands of motions and petitions for certification presented to the court.

Baker began her career with the Judiciary in 2010 as a law clerk to Justice Jaynee LaVecchia. After working as an attorney for a private firm that specialized in labor and employment matters, Baker returned to the Supreme Court in 2014 as a supervising staff attorney. She has served as the court's chief counsel since July 2016.

"I've learned a great deal under the tutelage of Mark Neary these past few years and I thank him for his guidance in preparing me for this new role," Baker said. "I could not be more proud to serve the chief and associate justices as clerk of the Supreme Court. Over the course of my career, I've developed a great reverence for the Supreme Court's crucial role in our society. I can think of no better way to serve the public than to advance the court's momentous work with enthusiasm and purpose."

Baker becomes just the sixth Supreme Court clerk in the history of the modern Judiciary. Neary was appointed clerk of the Supreme Court in 2009. He joined the office as a staff



Chief Justice Stuart Rabner administers the oath to Heather Joy Baker, the new clerk of New Jersey Supreme Court, as her husband Don and their son hold the Bible.

attorney in 1991 and became a court executive in 2001. "We are grateful for Mark's many years of exemplary service to the clerk's office," said Chief Justice Rabner. "He will be missed by all of us on the Supreme Court."

In addition to processing petitions for certification, the Supreme Court Clerk's Office oversees attorney and judicial disciplinary matters before the court, bar admission matters, attorney certifications, and other applications and petitions for review presented to the court.

The clerk also oversees the functioning of the Board of Bar Examiners, the Committee on Character, and the Board on Attorney Certification and supervises the director of the Office of Attorney Ethics, the chief counsel to the Disciplinary Review Board and the executive director of the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection.



Mark Neary (left) retired at the end of November after a 27-year career with the Judiciary.

Associate Justice Anne M. Patterson Receives Tenure



Chief Justice Stuart Rabner (right) administers the oath to Supreme Court Associate Justice Anne M. Patterson during her swearing-in ceremony at the Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex in Trenton on July 31 as her husband James watches. Gov. Phil Murphy renominated Justice Patterson to the Supreme Court on May, 31, 2018. Then-Gov. Chris Christie first nominated Justice Patterson to the court in 2011.

NJSBA Recognizes Diverse Judges



From Left: Monmouth Vicinage Assignment Judge Lisa P. Thornton, Appellate Division Presiding Judge Jose L. Fuentes and Judge Haekyoung Suh of the Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren Vicinage were honored with the Justice Thurgood Marshall Award at the New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA) Diversity Committee's annual reception honoring diverse judges. More than 200 judges and attorneys attended the reception, which was held Oct. 10 at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick. The NJSBA Diversity Committee works to ensure the full and equal access to and participation by individuals in the NJSBA, the legal profession and in the justice system regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. (Photos courtesy of the NJSBA/Steve Hockstein.)

Timpone Speaks at Hudson Inn of Court



New Jersey Supreme Court Associate Justice Walter F. Timpone was the featured speaker for the opening session of the Hudson Inn of Court in September. He is pictured with several Hudson Vicinage law clerks.

Karen Carroll appointed deputy clerk of administrative services for the Appellate Division

By MaryAnn Spoto
Communications Manager
Administrative Office of the Courts

Karen M. Carroll has been named deputy clerk of Administrative Services for the Appellate Division of the Superior Court.

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner signed an order on Oct. 15 on behalf of the Supreme Court appointing Carroll to succeed Leigh Eastty, who retired June 1.

As deputy clerk, Carroll is responsible for overseeing electronic filing and technology applications, the official court record including CourtSmart electronic recording systems and the production of transcripts, personnel, budget, facilities and other management duties for the Appellate Division.

Carroll joined the Judiciary in 1984 as a case manager in the Appellate Division and was later promoted to supervisor for a case processing team. She was selected to oversee a team that designed, developed and implemented eCourts Appellate.

Most recently, she has managed the appellate teams involved with eCourts and Criminal Justice Reform appeals and assisted with the "Build-A-Brief" project to benefit self-represented litigants.

She holds a bachelor's degree from Trenton State College, now known as The College of New Jersey, in Ewing.

Judiciary human resources managers participate in IPMA-HR conference

By Natalie Myers
Human Resources Manager
Middlesex Vicinage

Judiciary human resources managers participated in the International Public Management for Human Resources (IPMA-HR) Eastern Region Conference from June 17 to 20 in Baltimore. The theme was Harboring Our Inner Strength: Enhancing Our HR Toolkit, a take on the purpose of human resources combined with the conference location.

Judiciary human resources managers have continually participated over the years in this effort. Steven Wilkins, chief of Organizational Development and Training, served as a conference trainer. His topic was Performance Bootcamp, which led high-level managers through the performance management process.

IPMA-HR is the leading public sector human resource organization in the world. The organization represents the interests of human resource professionals at all levels and strives to promote excellence in HR management. Since 1906, IPMA-HR has been a resource for comprehensive and timely HR industry news, jobs, policies, resources, education, and professional development opportunities.

Members are encouraged to serve the organization on international, national, regional and state levels. Certification also is offered for members.

The IPMA-HR Eastern Region consists of HR professionals



From Left: Human Resources Division Managers Krystyna Carlino, Ocean; Natalie Myers, Middlesex; Kathy Cappeta, Burlington; Oretha Phelps, Essex

who serve in the public sectors in New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Washington D.C. and Rhode Island.

The eastern region president and conference host for 2017-2018 was Kathy Cappeta, human resources manager in the Burlington Vicinage. Cappeta, a longtime member of the organization, said she has "benefitted greatly from the networking opportunities, and the ability to hone her own HR toolkit" through the Judiciary's investment in its leaders through training.

The New Jersey Chapter president for 2017-2018 was Natalie Myers, human resources manager in the Middlesex Vicinage. Myers said her participation in IPMA-HR allowed her to connect with counterparts from other state and federal agencies, enabling her and others view HR issues from different vantages.

Performances, trolley rides highlight summer series

**By Rebekah Heilman
Ombudsman
Monmouth Vicinage**

**Janet Slocum
Administrative Specialist IV**

The Monmouth Vicinage fulfilled Assignment Judge Lisa P. Thornton's vision to bring judges, court staff, county partners and the community together this summer with a series of events focused on personal and professional enrichment, wellness, the arts and historical milestones.

The lunchtime events were known as the Monmouth Vicinage Summer Series. They were held on the scenic front lawn of the Monmouth County Courthouse in Freehold, as weather permitted, and drew a diverse group of participants and audience members from the court and community. The Summer Series included musical performances from local high schools.

In late May, acapella groups from Howell High School captivated the audience with their uplifting and harmonious vocal performances. In June, the Freehold High School Jazz Band had judges, employees, attorneys and court users tapping their feet. The vicinage also held health and wellness events. In late June, staff and judges enjoyed a lunchtime yoga session on the front lawn. Also in June, the vicinage held a "Healthy Fare Festival" offering employee-prepared samplings of healthy lunch and snack options, a presentation on holistic health, and displays on the benefits of walking and drinking water. The event fostered the exchange of nutrition tips and healthy recipes.

The series included celebrations of national holidays and historical events. The vicinage celebrated Flag Day and the principles that the American flag represents with patriotic vocal performances, poetry readings and a presentation by the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard. The series also marked the anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth Courthouse with a historical reenactment by volunteers from the Friends of Monmouth Battlefield and the Monmouth County Historical Association.

In August, the vicinage hosted a Native American heritage presentation by the Sand Hill Historical Association of Monmouth County in observance of United National Indigenous Peoples Month. Later that month, the vicinage recognized Women's Equality Day and the passage of the 19th Amendment with the re-creation of a 1920's-era women's suffrage rally. Vicinage employees and volunteers from the Ocean Grove Historical Society, the Monmouth County Historical Association and the Monmouth County Society portrayed Susan B. Anthony and other key figures in the suffrage movement for World Religions and Ethical Thought.

The most popular and well-attended event was the "Monmouth's Got Talent" program that highlighted the talents of Monmouth Vicinage staff. Employees from the criminal, family, civil and probation divisions performed vocal,

lip sync, dance and comedy skit routines along with a surprise grand finale musical performance by the management team. This lunchtime program drew an enthusiastic audience who cheered and applauded their colleagues.

For several weeks during the summer, staff, judges and court users enjoyed lunchtime trolley rides from the courthouse to experience areas of downtown Freehold. The vicinage also conducted outreach sessions to provide information on court services, programs and career opportunities at the Monmouth County Fair and the weekly outdoor market at the Hall of Records building in downtown Freehold.

These activities enhanced the vicinage's positive energy, strengthened connections between judges and employees across divisions and reinforced the relationship between the court and community. The vicinage plans to continue these programs through the fall and winter while planning activities for next summer.



At a Women's Equality Day program, key figures in the suffrage movement were portrayed by vicinage employees and volunteers from the Ocean Grove Historical Society, the Monmouth County Historical Association and the Monmouth County Society for World Religions and Ethical Thought.



As part of the Monmouth Vicinage Summer Series, civil division staff perform an original version of "The Mighty Quinn" at the Monmouth's Got Talent program.

Burlington, Camden vicinages welcome new citizens

Burlington

Jose L. Linares, chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, presided over a naturalization ceremony with acting Assignment Judge Jeanne T. Covert for 18 Burlington County residents on Sept. 27. The ceremony, part of the vicinage's celebration of Constitution Week, was held in the historic Olde Courthouse in Mount Holly. Students from Rancocas Valley High School and Sacred Heart Elementary School in Mount Holly participated. Judge Gerard Breland closed the ceremony by singing America the Beautiful and Judge Covert read a proclamation declaring Constitution and Citizenship Day. This year marked the 231st anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787.

Top image, from left: Jose L. Linares, chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, presided over a naturalization ceremony with acting Assignment Judge Jeanne T. Covert. Image to right, All new residents and their family/friends gathered at the Olde Burlington County Courthouse in Mount Holly.



Camden

Assignment Judge Deborah Silverman Katz administered the Oath of Citizenship to 25 new citizens from 14 countries during the Camden Vicinage's Constitution Day celebration on Monday, Sept. 17.

The event was held at the Hall of Justice in Camden. Vai Sikahema, news anchor for NBC10 News Today, gave the keynote remarks. Georgette Mejia, a Judiciary clerk with the vicinage and a naturalized citizen, read the names of the candidates.

Top: Camden's newly naturalized citizens raise their hands and repeat the Oath of Allegiance.

Bottom: Assignment Judge Deborah Silverman Katz (left) listens to Vai Sikahema speak at the Camden Vicinage naturalization ceremony.



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About the Cover

Hudson

The American flag flies at half-staff and 156 smaller flags symbolizing those from Hudson County who died in the terror attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 adorn the front lawn of the William J. Brennan Jr. Courthouse in Jersey City. The largest number of fatalities on 9-11 were Hudson County residents because of the county's proximity to Lower Manhattan and the large number of county residents who commute there for work.



Underscoring harmony, purpose, Hudson Vicinage marks Professionalism Day with *The Handshake*

By Judge Jeffrey R. Jablonski
Presiding Civil Division Judge
Hudson Vicinage

Members of the bench and bar filled the ceremonial courtroom at the William J. Brennan Jr. Courthouse in Jersey City on Oct. 18 as the Hudson County Bar Association and Foundation Professionalism Committee presented its seminar to celebrate Professionalism Day 2018: *The Handshake*.

A handshake, as noted by the committee, is the simplest of gestures performed millions of times daily. It establishes trust, recognizes respect, and creates equality between the participants. It also has become a valued tradition among the justices of the U.S. Supreme Court. In what is known as the "Judicial Handshake," Chief Justice Melville W. Fuller in the late 19th century required that at the opening of every session and at the beginning of each private session, each justice would first shake the hand of the other eight.

The modest, yet poignant, gesture was designed to remind each justice that any differences of opinion should and would not preclude the overall harmony of the court's purpose. Reflecting this ideal, the Hudson County Professionalism Committee considered the handshake as a symbol of civility and professionalism, and therefore, an appropriate centerpiece for Professionalism Day 2018.

The seminar focused on the ever-changing concepts of professionalism and how each generation of lawyers

interprets it. Presenters led a lively discussion about how effective communication, courtroom deference and litigation creativity was understood, interpreted, and implemented by recently admitted and more experienced attorneys. The Superior Court judges who attended and weighed in on the need to establish credibility and the perils of losing it provided valuable insight. Veteran litigators joined with their newer counterparts to discuss the importance of good judgment when representing clients. The program concluded with a reminder that all attorneys, young and old, have a responsibility to participate in the varied opportunities to advance the practice of law and its perception before the public.

Hudson Vicinage Assignment Judge Peter F. Bariso Jr. noted the importance of Professionalism Day because it gives attorneys an opportunity to "take stock of our own professional responsibilities, to reaffirm the notions of professionalism, and to remind ourselves about the characteristics that make all lawyers professionals."

Before the seminar, the committee recognized Jack Jay Wind as the Professional Lawyer of the Year for Hudson County. Wind was honored for his contributions to the practice of law, and most significantly, for the almost three decades of service as the District 6 Ethics Committee secretary. Anthony Ribaud and Bergen Vicinage probation employee Tra Coll, oversaw the planning of the event and, with a probation staff in attendance, ensured that the event ran smoothly.

Bergen captures Juvenile Olympics title

**By Joe Duffy
Probation Officer
Passaic Vicinage**

Bergen Vicinage won top honors at the 31st annual Juvenile Probation Olympics, held at Passaic County Technology Institute (PCTI) in Wayne on July 27. Middlesex Vicinage took second place and Union Vicinage placed third. Youth from Passaic, Morris, Hudson, Salem and Monmouth counties also scored high in numerous events.

More than 100 youth on juvenile probation from counties throughout New Jersey were in attendance on a hot summer day perfect for athletic competition. Despite the heat, the energy level was high and the youth engaged in friendly, exciting competition. The day's action centered on the PCTI football field and track. The school gymnasium was used for the basketball event.

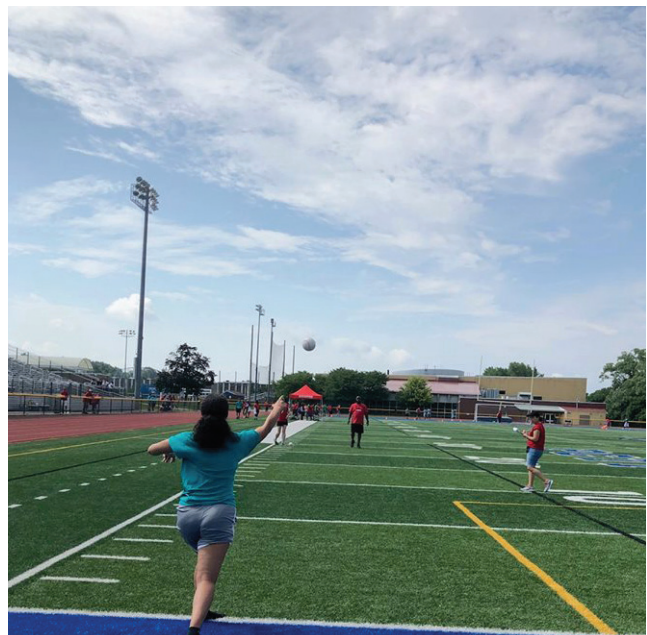
Youth competed in nine events, including a basketball free-throw shooting contest, 100-yard dash, obstacle course, 4X100 relay, football throw, long jump, jump rope, softball toss and tug of war. More than 100 probation officers, supervisors, probation chiefs and assistant chiefs provided transportation, supervision, refreshments, support, and encouragement throughout the day. Bergen Vicinage Chief Probation Officer Nicole Jaccoi said she has seen the positive impact of the Juvenile Olympics during her career. "We enjoy the Olympics because the juveniles have an opportunity to be a kid and interact with their probation officers outside of the office environment."

Jaccoi said, "It's great to have all the counties collaborating for the benefit of the juveniles, and at the end of the day, people who were once strangers become friends. It's all

about sportsmanship and teamwork." After the competition, a mostly exhausted group of competitors gathered in the cafeteria for a lunch sponsored by the PCTI Culinary Program. While the participants refueled and enjoyed the air conditioning, Passaic Vicinage Assignment Judge Ernest Caposela and Trial Court Administrator Robert Tracy, Bergen Vicinage Trial Court Administrator Laura A. Simoldoni and chief probation officers presided over the medal ceremony. A sense of camaraderie and accomplishment filled the room as the juveniles cheered each other's stellar performances. Another worthwhile Probation Olympics had ended but the good feelings about the event remained, as echoed by Passaic Chief Probation Officer Dawn Moody.

"With the steadfast endorsement of Assignment Judge Caposela and TCA Robert Tracy, Passaic welcomed the opportunity to host the olympics for our second year," Moody said. "Planning and coordinating is no easy feat but it was made so much more seamless with the unselfish support of the Passaic County Technical Institute, Passaic County Sheriff's Office administration and staff as well as our very own Positive Intervention Committee and chiefs."

The Probation Olympics, co-hosted by the Passaic and Bergen vicinages, was sponsored by the Positive Intervention Committee (PIC), a statewide group of juvenile probation officers and supervisors who identify and implement activities designed to enhance the rehabilitation of youth probationers. Passaic Vicinage probation employees Jennifer Wood and Anthony Ribaudo and Bergen Vicinage probation employee Tra Coll, oversaw the planning of the event and, with a probation staff in attendance, ensured that the event ran smoothly.



Preparing for new justice complex in Hudson



As these photos illustrate, plans for The Honorable Frank J. Guarini Justice Complex in Jersey City are in motion. The new facility will be located on Newark Avenue across from the Hudson County Administration Building, which currently houses most of the court operations.

Rafael Vinoly Architects of New York has been retained to design a master plan for the complex. Representatives of the firm are having preliminary planning discussions with county and court officials, including judges, division managers and senior managers from the Central Office. Details of the plan will be finalized once funding is secured.

The civil division and various county offices will remain in the nearby Justice William J. Brennan Jr. Courthouse. Officials decided to build a new facility rather than upgrade the Administration Building due to the high cost of renovations.

Judge Brennan recognized with Lasser Award

Tax Court Judge Mary Brennan recently was recognized with the Lawrence L. Lasser Award by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and the National Conference of State Tax Judges. Judge Brennan received the award at the 38th Annual Meeting of the National Conference of State Tax Judges, which was held in Chicago from Oct. 11 to Oct. 13.

Judge Lasser was instrumental in the formation of the New Jersey Tax Court and was its first presiding judge. He also was instrumental in establishing the National Conference of State Tax Judges in an effort to provide continuing legal education in this highly special area of law.



Judge Mary Brennan

Vicinages Host Court Opening Ceremonies



The Burlington, Camden and Gloucester/Cumberland/Salem vicinages held their annual opening ceremonies for the new court year and memorial services for members and former members of bar associations who passed away during the prior court year.

The Camden Vicinage and the Camden County Bar Association ceremony, held on Sept. 24 at the Hall of Justice in Camden, honored Judges Mary Ellen Talbott and Michael Patrick King, as well as bar members William Mackin, Stephen D. Morgan and Anthony M. "Tony" Bezich. There also was a special remembrance for a retired bar association staff member Denise Susan Whybark, who also passed away during the prior court year.

The Burlington Vicinage and Burlington County Bar Association held its ceremonies on Sept. 12 in the Olde Courthouse in Mount Holly. Those who were memorialized included John L. Laskey, James Logan Jr. and Kenneth E. Smith. The Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem Vicinage held its ceremony on Sept. 5 at the Cumberland County Courthouse in Bridgeton.

Speeches, poems focus of Patriot Day 2018 in Middlesex Vicinage

By Lawrence Bethea
EEO/AA Officer
Middlesex Vicinage

The Middlesex Vicinage observed Patriot Day on Sept. 11 with a special event at the Middlesex County Courthouse in New Brunswick.

Trial Court Administrator Dawn Brevard-Waters gave the opening remarks. Judge John Jorgensen, the keynote speaker, asked those in attendance to take a moment to reflect on where they were on Sept 11, 2001 and how that day changed their lives.

Judge Jorgensen spoke of how the nation stood together in the aftermath of the attacks. "There was an outpouring of love for our nation," he said. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of those who lost their

lives in the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon and in the crash of United Airlines Flight 93 near Shanksville, Pa.

Judge Jorgensen ended the program by reciting a poem, *Courage* by Bernard Dozier, which spoke about six types of courage: unspeakable, gallant, enormous, dauntless, invincible, and noble.

He concluded by issuing those in attendance a challenge: "To be compassionate, be considerate, and be courageous so that we, as a people, can be much better and greater because of what happened and move forward with an eye to become greater ourselves."

Spotlight: Somerset County Courthouse

Editor's Note: This story is the ninth in a series detailing the rich histories of New Jersey's courthouses.

By Mike Mathis
Judiciary Times Editor

Church and state are joined in an unusual way on the green in Somerville.

From as early as the first decade of the 20th century, a church and a courthouse have stood there. Once slated for demolition, the 19th century former First Reformed Church now serves as a waiting room for petit jurors and is occasionally used as an assembly space for court functions. Also once eyed for demolition, the Somerset County Courthouse - a landmark on North Bridge Street since its completion in 1909 - was renovated and still houses courtrooms, judges' chambers and offices for court staff.

The church was completed in 1898 and was given to Somerset County in 1974 by the congregation with the stipulation that it not be demolished for 10 years.

From 1979 to 1985, the church was used for courtrooms, a makeshift jury room and office space. The church was slated for demolition in 1985 but was saved by freeholders and preservationists. Many original elements of the interior have been retained, including the oak woodwork and the intricate system of exposed beams that support the roof. The central stairwell in the vestibule leads to the bell tower, where the original church bell is housed. There are 20 stained glass windows in the church. One set of windows shows a crown, cross, and purple passionflower motif and bears the inscription "Gift of James A. Case. The Cases were a prominent New Jersey family that lived in Somerville. The family included Clarence E. Case, who served as an associate justice on the New Jersey Supreme Court from 1948 until 1952.

When Somerset County was founded in 1688, most of its judicial affairs were conducted in Middlesex County, according to the Somerset County website. In 1714, the

colonial assembly authorized construction of a courthouse in Somerset County. Freeholders chose a location in Franklin Township for a courthouse and jail, both of which were destroyed by fire in 1737. A second courthouse was constructed in present day Millstone Borough and stood until 1779, when it was burned down by invading British forces, the website states. The county appointed a committee in 1782 to build a new courthouse. The committee met with members of the Dutch Reformed Church and agreed to build a courthouse in Somerville.

The county court continued to use this structure until 1799, when the fourth courthouse was constructed. In 1849, the courthouse was enlarged with the addition of another story and a portico on the front. There were two smaller buildings on the courthouse green at the time that served as offices for the county clerk and surrogate, the website states. As Somerset County's population increased at the turn of the 20th century, the need for a new courthouse grew. The freeholders agreed to build the current courthouse in 1905 at a cost of \$227,589. They selected an architectural firm headed by James Riely Gordon, who designed the Arizona, Mississippi and Montana capitol buildings and 70 courthouses in the southwest.

Gordon designed a structure containing 46 offices and rooms. It featured a paneled rotunda extending from the ground floor to a leaded glass dome in the roof, surrounded by a marble lantern. There were five courtrooms opening into the galleries on different floors around the central rotunda. The white, Alabama marble-faced courthouse was targeted for demolition years later because it became too small for the growing county. Instead, county officials decided to restore the building and built a much larger, modern building next door in 1986.



The Somerset County Courthouse in Somerville as it appeared in the early 20th century.



The Somerset County Courthouse as it appears today.