

# L a w y e r

April, 2018

A Publication of the Mercer County Bar Association

Volume 37, Issue 2

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**Save the Date:**  
**XTREME CLE**  
**October 11, 2018**  
*Mercer County*  
*Community*  
*College*

## From the President's

**I**t is hard to believe that we are soon entering June and the mid-point of our Bar Association year. We have already completed many successful events and programs and have many more planned from now to the end of the year.

In March, we held our very successful Bench Bar Ethics Luncheon featuring Chief Justice Stuart Rabner and Judge Phil Carchman. The program, "From Mueller to Henderson: The Use of Social Science in Judicial Decision Making", was a fascinating historical insight into how the courts use social science data to frame their decisions and ultimately shape new legal precedent. Thank you to Chief Justice Rabner and Judge Carchman for giving us this amazing presentation. Also, thank you to Judge Mary Jacobson for introducing the Chief Justice and Judge Carchman (as well as suggesting the program).

The Women Lawyers Committee (WLC) hosted a great program with Judge Allison Accurso of the Appellate Division. Judge Accurso shared her insights into appellate advocacy and effective legal writing, and provided practical advice for younger (as well as more "seasoned") attorneys. Judge Accurso was extremely gra-



acious with her time and she captivated the audience. Thank you Judge Accurso. Also, special thanks to Mike Kahme and Hill Wallack for hosting not only the WLC program but also the Membership Committee meeting at their offices.

One of the privileges of serving as the Mercer County Bar Association President is the opportunity to select the Mercer County Professional Lawyer of the Year. It was my honor to name Judge Phil Carchman as the 2018 Mercer County Professional Lawyer of the Year. Judge Carchman is a living legend in Mercer County with a distinguished history of public service as a municipal court judge, Mercer County Prosecutor, assignment judge, presiding appellate judge, and Administrative Director of the Courts. The Mercer County Bar Association is extremely honored that former Chief Justice Deborah Poritz and former Justice Virginia Long attended the ceremony to help pay tribute to Judge Carchman.

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M e r c e r C o u n t y

**L a w y e r**

April 2018

Volume 37, Issue 2

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Brian J. Duff <i>President-Elect</i>	609-586-9000
James Creegan <i>Vice President</i>	609-896-9060
Tanya Phillips <i>Treasurer</i>	609-771-8611
Michael Kahme <i>Secretary</i>	609-924-0808

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## 2018

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Robin E. Echevarria	609-799-9222
John S. Eory	609-896-9060
Kimberly Gandy Jinks	609-803-3100
Brian W. Shea	609-586-9000

## 2019

T. Sandberg Durst	609-436-9079
Andrew M. Ferencevych	609-882-0288
Katie Mae Magee	609-989-6399
Thomas S. Onder	609-896-9060
Samuel C. Toma	609-896-2222

## 2020

Melissa A. Chimbangu	609-275-0400
Doris Galuchie	609-989-6307
Jeffrey M. Gradone	609-580-3700
Lauren Scardella	609-587-1144
Ross J. Switkes	609-695-6070

Robert Lytle  
*Immediate Past President*

609- 275-0400

Craig J. Hubert, Esq.  
*NJSBA Representative*

609-275-0400

MCBA Office 609-585-6200

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One of the highlights of the evening was Chief Justice Poritz sharing her reflections and comments about Judge Carchman. Also, thank you to former Mercer County Bar Association President Craig Hubert for taking part in the ceremony. As Chief Justice Carchman, he "...is a man of great integrity and one of the Judiciary's finest legal scholars." Congratulations Judge Carchman.

June will be a busy month for the Mercer County Bar Association. On June 5, we will hold our annual Golf Outing at Old York Country Club. This promises to be a great day. I would like to thank our sponsors, All State Investigations and First American for their support. On June 14, the WLC (Melissa Chimbangu, Lauren Scardella and Amy Devenny) will host what promises to be an outstanding ethics program at the Dance

Pavilion at Rat's on the Grounds for Sculpture. The panelists, Senator Linda Greenstein (Chairwoman, Senate Law and Public Safety Committee), Judge Christine Gravelle, U.S.B.C., Judge Darlene Pereksta, J.S.C. and Judge Kay Walcott-Henderson, J.S.C., will address numerous ethical issues that can arise during the course of litigation. Finally, June 15 is Mercer County Bar Association Night at the Trenton Thunder. We have reserved the picnic area, and a full picnic buffet of hot dogs, hamburgers, salads and dessert will be provided. Thanks to our Executive Director, Samantha Iraca, for organizing the event. Tickets, which include the buffet, will be free to children 3 and under, \$15 for children between 4 and 6, and \$30 for everyone else. Also, June 15 is Gary Sanchez Bobblehead Night, so arrive early to claim your bobblehead!



Hello MCBA Members & Friends,

I hope all of you are well and enjoying the Spring weather. I know I'm not alone when I say allergies have been a little unbearable so far this year but it's better than snow!

For those of you that haven't had the chance to look at our new website, please check it out. We are still working out some kinks but it looks a lot better than it did and we will continue to make enhancements to improve our member experience. There are a lot of wonderful events planned for June, don't miss out!

Warm regards,  
Sam

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Rukiya Blackwell, Esq.**

22 Washington Street  
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060  
609-847-7683

**Marc Brotman, Esq.**

**Richard A. Goldberg & Associates**

170 Scotch Road  
Ewing, NJ 08628  
609-538-1900

**Cassandra Centeno, Esq.**

1600 Perrineville Rd.  
Suite 2-320  
Monroe Township, NJ 08831  
877-859-1056  
Fax: 646-799-7672

**Nicholas Kant, Esq.**

**Division of Law – State of N.J.**

PO Box 117  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
609-777-3733  
Fax: 609-777-3503

**Caitlyn Kelly, Esq.**

**Mercer County Prosecutors Office**

PO Box 8068  
Trenton, NJ 08650  
609-989-6399  
Fax: 609-278-7143

**Stephanie Lockspeiser, Esq.**

**Stark & Stark**

993 Lenox Drive, Bldg 2  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648  
609-895-7354  
Fax: 791-7025

**Lauren Martinez, Esq.**

**Mercer County Prosecutors Office**

PO Box 8068  
Trenton, NJ 08650  
609-989-6399  
Fax: 609-278-7143

**Monica Martini, Esq.**

**Mercer County Prosecutors Office**

PO Box 8068  
Trenton, NJ 08650  
609-989-6399  
Fax: 609-278-7143

**Benjamin Muzi, Esq.**

2706 Princeton Pike  
Lawrenceville, N.J. 08648  
609-571-7358

**Jared Oberweis, Esq.**

**Turp, Coates, Drigger & White**

170 South Main Street  
Hightstown, NJ 08520  
609-448-0016  
Fax: 866-685-1450

**Katherin Romero**

7 Roszel Road, 4th floor  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
609-243-7906  
Fax: 609-681-5202

**Anthony Todaro, Esq.**

**Tompkins, McGuire, Wachenfeld & Barry, LLP**

21 Joni Ave.  
Trenton, NJ 08690  
973-622-3000

**Megan Elizabeth Verbos, RN, BSN**

**Celentano Stadtmauer & Walentowicz, LLP**

2060 Yardville-Hamilton Square Rd.  
Trenton, NJ 08690  
973-778-1771

**Vijaysen Yellareddigari, Esq.**

**Kasprzyk & Yellareddigi, LLC**

578 Main Street  
Cherry Hill, NJ  
609-900-4050  
Fax: 609-482-4977

## Three Nuns Shot in Trenton By, Frank Flacks

I recently came across an article by Paul Mickle at the Trentonian about the attempted murder of three nuns in 1958 in the Chambersburg section of Trenton. Not only is this crime story worth telling but it also is worth telling the story of Stanley R. Rutkowski, Sr. who was the Mercer County Prosecutor at the time.

As Paul Mickle described the story, "(A) young religious fanatic who grew up in a broken home, storms a convent and shotguns three nuns, then escapes out the back as police fire away at shadows in the front window of the nunnery."

On April 19, 1958 Chambersburg's St. Joachim's Roman Catholic Church, located on Bayard Street, became the target of both a mad sniper and the Trenton Police who riddled the convent thinking the gunman was still inside.

The gunman, Louis Felipe Marrero, was actually seen walking up Bayard toward the church from his house, also located on the same street. Marrero was a 24-year-old steelworker, married with two small children. He rang the doorbell of the convent and pulled out a 12-gauge shotgun from under his trench coat as Sister Madeline Fussile, age 23, answered.

When Sister Madeline saw the shotgun, she ran past him to the sidewalk. Marrero turned and fired a shotgun blast striking Sister Fussile in the right thigh.

In the chaos that followed, several screaming nuns were seen running out of the convent with Marrero in pursuit, firing away and wounding two more nuns and a man who just happened to be outside. In addition, to Sister Fussile, he shot Sister Lorenzino Sassani, age 50, in the chest and Sister Angela Bulla, age 24, in the right arm. When two Trenton Police Officers arrived, they found the wounded nuns, plus the passer-by, Stephen Konesol, age 53, with a head wound.

From an upstairs window of the convent, Marrero then shot and hit the two officers who fired back, blasting out the windows of the parish school annex.

A young Sal Gurdotti (who later became a local

attorney but later died), then playing in the street described the scene as "a nightmare. There was a gun on the ground. She was my fifth-grade teacher, and she was hollering out in pain. People who were standing there gathered around and tried to help. It was horrible."

Police crouched behind their police vehicles firing their weapons at the convent. Over 1,000 shots were fired along with tear gas. Thinking it was now safe to enter the convent, they entered only to discover that Marrero had long before escaped out a back wall of the convent.

Marrero made his escape along a railway bed to the Delaware River where he stole a rubber raft. He made it halfway across the river and tried to swim the rest of the way. When he almost drowned, he retrieved the raft and made it to the Pennsylvania side of the river. Finding the U.S Steel Fairless works, where he worked, he found a security officer and said, "I just shot a bunch of nuns."

Marrero was arrested and brought back to Trenton. Investigators for the new Mercer County Prosecutor, Stanley E. Rutkowski, Sr. found out the reasons for Marrero's rampage. Rutkowski reported that Marrero was an orphan whose father had been murdered in Philadelphia while Marrero was a young boy. His mother ended up in a mental facility.

Neighbors described Marrero, who was married with young children, as a responsible family man. But Rutkowski and his staff soon learned that for weeks Marrero had been talking to the priests at St. Joachim's about various Bible passages. He was also upset because he couldn't get anyone to baptize his institutionalized mother and because no one seemed interested in his idea of a religious medal being made to honor America's new astronauts to take on their journeys into space.

Although obviously mentally disturbed, Prosecutor Rutkowski charged him with attempted murder and brought him to trial as a criminal.

Within five months, Marrero was convicted and sentenced to 28 to 42 months in prison. In 1963, after five years at Trenton State Prison, he was

transferred to Trenton Psychiatric Hospital. He was paroled in 1977.

By the time Paul Mickle wrote his article, in 1998, two of the three nuns and the two wounded officers had died. Only Sister Madeline Fussile was alive, at that time, living in Florida. Marrero's whereabouts were unknown.

Prosecutor Rutkowski's story is fascinating. During WWII, he served as a Special Agent in the elite U.S. Army Counter Intelligence Corps and was assigned to the First Cavalry Division in the South Pacific. He was then temporarily assigned to the 158th Bushmaster Regiment where he took part in the landing and securing of Noemfoer in the Dutch East Indies.

There, he performed combat intelligence, searching enemy dead, retrieving Japanese documents, and interrogating prisoners. Returning to the First Cavalry, he landed in the first waves of the invasion of Leyte in the Philippines and later into the invasion of Luzon.

While in Luzon, he became acquainted with Senator Elpidio Guirino, whose brother was the Philippine Attorney General, and also Ramon Ozeta who was Chief Justice of the Philippine Supreme Court. Senator Guirino later became President of the Philippines. Rutkowski was assigned towards the end of the war to the 5th Marine Amphibious Corps. for the invasion of Japan.

After the war, he attended Rutgers Law School graduating in 1948. He was immediately appointed an Assistant U.S. Attorney for New Jersey. During his tenure, he led a task force of 35 agents in the

successful investigation of income tax violators in Atlantic City.

In 1953, he became a Deputy Attorney General and named the first Chief of the newly established Criminal Division under Attorney General Grover C. Richard, Jr. He also acted, at one time or another as Acting Prosecutor in seven New Jersey counties.

In 1957, he was appointed Mercer County Prosecutor, serving until 1964. As Prosecutor, he was assigned by Attorney General Richman to investigate activities of New Jersey mafia members in the infamous Appalachian, NY mafia meeting. In 1964, he was appointed by Governor Richard J. Hughes as a Workers' Compensation Judge. He retired in 1978.

There is a tragic side to the life of Judge Rutkowski. On October 16, 1944, his brother Victor S. Rutkowski, a co-pilot on a B17 bomber, was on a bomb run over Germany when it was hit by a flak. Seven crewmembers, including Victor, bailed out. Surviving crewmembers never saw Victor again.

I spoke to Judge Rutkowski while appearing in front of him. He returned to Germany to search for his brother's remains. He told me that he learned that his brother landed safely but was killed by civilians who wanted his leather bomber jacket. His brother's remains were never found. Judge Rutkowski died in 2009.



## Mercer County Bar Foundation News

### MCBA 6th Annual Wine & Dine

On April 20, 2018, the MCBA hosted the 6th Annual Wine & Dine at the Stone Terrace by John Henry's in Hamilton Township. The event was well-attended by members of the Association, and included a wide variety of fine wines and beer for sampling and purchase. The silent auction featured various items for bidding, including Trenton Thunder tickets, rounds of golf, historic portraits of past jurists, and Philadelphia Eagles memorabilia autographed by the "Voice of the Eagles" and Hall of Fame announcer Merrill Reese. Importantly, net proceeds from the event will serve to benefit the Association's communal and philanthropic activities in Mercer County, including funding for our scholarships and anti-bullying projects, as well as various charities such as Meals on Wheels, One Simple Wish, Special Olympics, the Sunshine Foundation, and T.A.S.K. Simply put, the event was nothing short of a success. Thank you to all who attended and for your generous contributions!



Mercer County Bar Foundation President Tanya Phillips and Mercer County Bar Association President Anglo Onofri.

## Mercer County Bar Foundation News

Thanks to everyone who attended and supported the April 20th Wine & Dine. I would like to extend a special thank you on behalf of the Foundation to all of our sponsors, as well as the following individuals and businesses:

Silent Auction Chair  
Mark Renzi

Mercer County Bar Association Executive Director  
Samantha Iraca

Mercer County Bar Association Staff  
Sandy DeLorenzo, Alberta Kennedy, Mary Murkli & Paulette Costa

Mystery Wine co-chairs  
Melissa Chimbangu & Robin Echevarria

Art Laurenti of Shoprite Liquors & their Distributors

This event would not have been possible without your support.

Sincerely,

*Tanya L. Phillips, Esq.*



## Mercer County Bar Foundation News



Mercer County Bar Foundation Wine and Dine Auction Chair, Mark Renzi; Mercer County Bar Foundation President Tanya L. Phillips; MCBF Member Colleen Crocker, Esq.



Michael Lento, Esq., and Kelly Lento.



Carla Carbonara, Lyssa Onofri, Jared Oberweiss

## Mercer County Bar Foundation News



From left to right: Lauren English-Mezzino; Robyn English-Mezzino (Pepper Hamilton); Andrea Petrou; Mathew Cali (Pepper Hamilton); Dan Jonaitis; Stephanie Jonaitis (Pepper Hamilton)

## Bench Bar Luncheon *March 14, 2018*

Members of the Mercer County Bar Association welcomed Chief Justice Stuart Rabner and Judge Philip J. Carchman for a luncheon at the Stone Terrace in Hamilton featuring their presentation, "From Mueller to Henderson: The Use of Social Science in Judicial Decision Making." Thank you to Chief Justice Rabner and Judge Carchman for their informative presentation exploring the use of non-legal social sciences and data to frame judicial decisions, as well as the Stone Terrace for their hard work in ensuring a successful afternoon!

From left to right:  
Judge Philip J.  
Carchman P.J.A.D.  
(ret.), Mercer County  
Bar Association  
President Angelo J.  
Onofri, Esq., and  
Chief Justice Stuart  
Rabner.



From left to right: \*\*\*\*, Judge  
Mary Jacobson A.J.S.C.,  
Judge Darlene Pereksta J.S.C.,  
Judge Philip J. Carchman  
P.J.A.D. (ret.), Mercer County  
Bar Association President  
Angelo J. Onofri Esq., and  
Chief Justice Stuart Rabner.

# May General Membership & Professional Lawyer of the Year *May 2, 2018*



The Mercer County Bar Association named Judge Philip J. Carchman P.J.A.D (Ret.) as the Professional Lawyer of the Year. The event was well attended, and a wonderful tribute to one of Mercer County's finest jurists. Pictured: Mercer County Bar Association President Angelo J. Onofri, Esq. and Judge Philip J. Carchman P.J.A.D. (Ret.)



Chief Justice Deborah Poritz (Ret.), Judge Philip J. Carchman P.J.A.D. (Ret.); Mercer County Bar Association President Angelo J. Onofri, Esq., and Justice Virginia Long (Ret.).

## *Women's Lawyers Committee*



From left to right: Amy Devenny, Lauren Scardella, Judge Allison E. Accurso, J.A.D., Melissa Chimbangu, and MCBA President Angelo Onofri.

On April 12, a number of Mercer County Bar Association members joined the Women's Law Committee for a luncheon at Hill Wallack, LLP in Princeton with Judge Allison E. Accurso, J.A.D. Judge Accurso shared with us her journey to the bench, from the start of her career in private practice, to becoming an Assistant Attorney General at the Office of the Attorney General, to her appointment to the Morris County bench and path to the Appellate Division. Judge Accurso took the time to answer many questions, providing valuable insight into the inner-workings of the Appellate Division. Thank you to Judge Accurso, Hill Wallack, and the Women's Lawyers Committee for an insightful and informative luncheon!



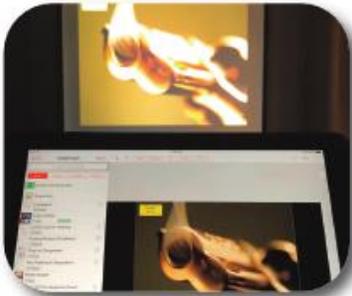
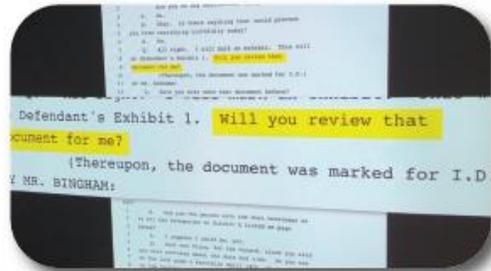


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## SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

### Mercer Vicinage

#### By Judge Mary C. Jacobson

**C**riminal Justice Reform (“CJR”) has been the most prominent initiative of the State of New Jersey judiciary for the past two years. Now that the law has been effective in New Jersey for more than fifteen months, I wanted to highlight for the Bar Association members the important roles being played by the municipal courts and the Family Division of the Superior Court. They are critical partners in the ongoing success of the CJR effort throughout the State, and certainly in Mercer County.

Mercer’s municipal judges conduct court proceedings for first appearances six times a week. This process is referred to as “CJP” court, denoting Centralized Judicial Processing. In Mercer County, CJP court is conducted in a Superior Court courtroom, by a municipal judge, in the presence of the Prosecutor and Public Defender, except on weekends when a virtual video “courtroom” is utilized to bring all participants together electronically. In both proceedings, incarcerated defendants typically appear by video and are represented by the state public defender, regardless of the level of the charge.

Absent a motion for detention by the Prosecutor, the judge presiding over the court hearing is responsible for setting the level and conditions of release, as well as providing the next court appearance date for the individual. The conditions for release are imposed on a case by case basis, using the Public Safety Assessment (“PSA”) that analyzes the dangerousness of the defendant and his or her risk of not appearing for future court proceedings.

The CJP judges schedule next appearances in one of three venues: municipal court, the Family Division of the Superior Court, or before a Mercer County Criminal Division judge. The PSA uses an evidence-based numerical scoring system that contains a recommendation regarding conditions for the CJP judge to consider. Our municipal judges work closely with the Criminal Division’s Pre-trial Services staff in scheduling cases, issuing orders, and providing defendants with notice of their next court appearances. The cooperation between the municipal judges and the Pre-trial Services Unit is critical to the functioning of the program, and has been a hallmark of the CJP process in Mercer County.

When cases are referred to the municipal courts for processing from CJP court, municipal courts have discretion to use video appearances for incarcerated defendants. Municipal matters often involve self-represented litigants, which requires an important sensitivity to due process concerns by municipal court staff and municipal judges.

Future appearances of released defendants in municipal court may thus not always involve a public defender or private counsel, distinguishing such appearances from CJP court, where the defendant is always represented by counsel. Once a release decision is made for an individual charged with a disorderly persons offense, for example, the state public defender no longer handles the matter. At that time, the individual can either apply for the municipal public defender, hire a private attorney or represent themselves.

The Honorable Roger T. Haley, Presiding Municipal Court Judge in Mercer Vicinage, handles central judicial processing appearances several times a month, and presides over municipal court sessions in Ewing Township and Hopewell Borough. This experience has provided Judge Haley with the perspective of what happens at the centralized judicial processing event, as well as how CJR has changed municipal court practice. Judge Haley commented that CJR has increased the workload of the municipal courts: “As the supervising judge for the municipal courts in Mercer County, I want to publicly thank the municipal court judges and court administration staff who are handling the increased work with dedication and commitment to the success of this new initiative.”

Assistant Criminal Division Manager, Virginia Pauls, who is in charge of the Pre-trial Services Unit in Mercer County, has repeatedly praised municipal court judges and court administration staffs for their cooperation in CJR, especially in trouble-shooting unusual cases.

The use of technology has made the concept of an “original” complaint obsolete; unless extenuating circumstances occur, all complaints are generated with an electronic signature. As a result, municipal judges utilize an individual’s first scheduled court date in municipal court to confirm that the defendants were advised of the charges against them. There is now a presumption of arraignment given the standardized first appearance at CJP court. The benefit of centralized processing is that it has allowed the Mercer County Prosecutor’s Office to review charges and process downgrades on an expedited basis. In addition, the proceedings allow defendants to receive their municipal court dates immediately, diverging from notices of court appearances being sent in the mail.

The biggest impact of CJR on the Family Division involves criminal domestic violence charges. The Honorable Lawrence DeBello, J.S.C., has the most direct involvement of the Family Division judges. If an individual is charged with contempt of a final restraining order, this

complaint is transferred to the Family Division from CJP court and is calendared on the Final Restraining Order (“FO”) docket. Judge DeBello has remarked that CJR has impacted both case preparation and case processing in the FO docket. Similar to the municipal court, the family court reviews new cases that have been transferred by the Prosecutor’s Office to determine if an individual was previously arrested on the underlying complaint and, if so, what took place at the CJP court event. When defendants appear before the judge, the court must confirm that the defendants were arraigned on the charges and are abiding by their conditions of release.

Judge DeBello additionally handles requests made by the parties to amend the release conditions, including the request of a victim to remove any no contact provision that may have been imposed. This review requires coordination and an understanding of the procedural aspects of Criminal Justice Reform among all of the parties involved.

The municipal and family courts are primarily concerned with defendants whose matters are transferred from the Superior Court, Criminal Division to the municipal or family courts. In the past fifteen months of CJR, there have been instances where an individual has been detained on charges that are then heard in municipal or family court. As a result, the municipal and family courts must process these cases under CJR time requirements. Speedy trial expectations have been in existence for decades; however, prior guidelines did not have legal timeframes and available remedies when the timeframes were not met. If monetary bail was posted, for example, a defendant had the option of being released from jail by posting the bail.

Under the new speedy trial reform, individuals who are detained at the request of the prosecutor do not have the ability to be released absent an order by a Superior Court Judge. As a result, there are individuals being held in jail that require representation during their incarceration. While the state public defender represents all individuals until a release decision is made, cases of detained defendants transferred to the Family Division or municipal court pose the question of representation.

Moreover, under CJR, detained defendants must not be detained for longer than their maximum sentence exposure. For the disorderly persons offenses that are the types of cases most often referred to the municipal and family courts, they must all be disposed of within 180 days of the individual’s incarceration. There are also expedited timeframes for filing appeals, requiring the prompt assignment of counsel to handle the appeals of indigent defendants expeditiously.

These time requirements place a great deal of pressure on the municipal and family courts to move quickly to protect the rights of the defendants and prosecutors alike. The Mercer Vicinage is committed to assisting the various courts meet the requirements of CJR for de-

tained defendants. The partnership between the Criminal, Municipal, and Family Divisions, as well as cooperation from external stakeholders, has facilitated the development of procedures to address the specific case management issues pertaining to detained individuals in the municipal and family courts. Standardized processes have been established and are continually reviewed in an effort to improve the efficiency of scheduling these individuals for their court appearances.

The implementation of CJR in the Mercer Vicinage would not have been possible without the support and efforts of all stakeholders. The members of the Mercer County Bar Association, Mercer County administration, and local law enforcement, including the Mercer County Correctional Center, have all played a significant role in the success of this important initiative. I am grateful for the collaborative efforts these organizations have made and I look forward to continued cooperation in the future.

Any attorney or interested party seeking more information about CJR, including its impact on the municipal and family courts, may consult the extensive resources available on the Judiciary website. The following are a sampling of the resources found there: a step-by-step guide to the Criminal Justice Reform process; public access to the virtual courtroom proceedings held on weekends; and an updated version of *Defending a Domestic Violence Contempt Case Manual – A Primer for Assigned Counsel*, which is available on the pro bono page. The procedures, electronic systems, and court rules will continue to evolve as Criminal Justice Reform progresses in New Jersey.

If any member of the bar or civic organization would like to arrange for group informational sessions and trainings, please contact Virginia Pauls, Assistant Division Manager for Pretrial Services, at (609) 571-4200 x74593, or Ivette Santiago-Green, EEO/AA Officer and staff representative to the Mercer Vicinage Minority Concerns Committee, at (609) 571-4200 x74804. We encourage you all to reach out for information or to schedule presentations whenever we can be of assistance.

Our goal is to promote the sharing of knowledge and changes related to Criminal Justice Reform with the Mercer County Bar Association. We will continue to provide updated information about CJR through this newsletter. By identifying the areas where the courts and bar have been impacted, we want to address all important concerns and develop solutions when problems arise. The cooperation of bench, bar, and court administrative staff on the municipal and Superior Court levels will continue to ensure that the goals of CJR continue to be promoted in Mercer County.

## *Calendar of Events*

### *June*

**Collect new and used children's books for summer distribution.**

Tuesday, **June 5th**: MCBA Golf Day @ Old York Country Club. More information to come.

Thursday, **June 7th**: Diversity and Inclusion Committee brings you- Behind the Veil: A Dialogue on Understanding Islam. 5:30-7pm @ Hill Wallack.

Wednesday, **June 13th**: Serve dinner 3:30-5pm. @ TASK.

Thursday, **June 14th**: Lawyers Care 5:30-7:00pm @ Mercer County Connection.

Thursday, **June 14th**: Women's Lawyers Ethics Seminar & Wine Tasting 5:30-8:00pm @ Rat's Restaurant.

Friday, **June 15th**: MCBA night at the Trenton Thunder picnic area. 7:10 game. Registration information is included.

Thursday, **June 28th**: Municipal Bench Bar Seminar @ Ewing Township Municipal Court.

### *July*

Thursday, July 12th: Lawyers Care 5:30-7:00pm @ Mercer County Connection

### *August*

Children's Event – Picnic with DJ, Ice Cream and Face Painting – date to be determined.

Wednesday, August 8th: Deliver lunch for Meals on Wheels 10:30-noon.

Thursday, August 9th: Lawyers Care 5:30-7:00pm @ Mercer County Connection.

Thursday, August 13th: Lawyers Care 5:30-7:00pm @ Mercer County Connection.

## *Calendar of Events*

### *September*

Wednesday, September 26th: Judges & Law Clerks Reception 5:30–8:30pm @ Mercer Oaks

Thursday, September 27th: Serve lunch @ TASK 10:30-1:00pm

### *October*

Collect new and used coats

Senior's event – Halloween Party – date to be determined.

**Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>: Xtreme CLE 2018 8:00am-8:00pm @ Mercer County Community College Conference Center**

Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>: Lawyers Care 5:30-7:00pm @ Mercer County Connection.

### *November*

Collect new and used coats

Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>: November General Membership Meeting & Casino Night 5:30-8:30pm @ The Stone Terrace.

Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>: Lawyers Care 5:30-7:00pm @ Mercer County Connection.

Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>: Deliver lunch for Meals on Wheels 10:30-noon.

### *December*

Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>: Serve lunch 10:30-1:00pm @ TASK.

Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>: Holiday Party 5:30-8:30pm @ Cobblestone Creek (formerly Green Acres Country Club)

Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>: Lawyers Care 5:30-7:00pm @ Mercer County Connection.

\*\*Please note that this calendar is not final. The MCBA hopes to add more events and dates accordingly. \*\*



**WE'RE MOVING!**



**THE OFFICE OF THE MERCER  
COUNTY CLERK**

**Is Moving**

**End of July 2018**

Back to the Courthouse Annex

**209 SOUTH BROAD ST., TRENTON, NJ**

**1<sup>ST</sup> Floor- Property Recording, Passports, Small  
Business Registrations, Notary Public & Public  
Records Room**

**2<sup>ND</sup> Floor- Elections & County and Veteran IDs**

Please visit our website [www.mercercounty.org](http://www.mercercounty.org) for  
details as they become available or contact the office  
of the Mercer County Clerk, Paula Sollami-Covello, Esq.  
with any questions or concerns (609) 989-6465



**Subject: Mercer County Clerk's Office Issuing New ID Cards to Gold-Star Parents**

For Immediate Release  
Paula Sollami Covello  
Mercer County Clerk  
609-989-6465

**Mercer County Clerk's Office Issuing New ID Cards to Gold-Star Parents**

The Mercer County Clerk's Office is now offering special ID cards to Gold Star Parents, who have lost a son or daughter in combat, following the passage of recent legislation signed by the Governor, which allows such cards to be issued by NJ County Clerks. Mercer County Clerk Paula Sollami Covello announced her office recently began issuing cards, always at no cost, for Gold-Star parents who present proper identification. Additionally, she stated her office will record the official paperwork of loss, DS 1300, for free in the County Clerk's records. Additional forms of ID cards offered by the County Clerk are Mercer County resident ID cards and Veteran ID cards.

The County Clerk's office is located in Trenton at 240 West State Street, 7th floor. (After August 1, our office will be relocating to 209 S. Broad Street, Courthouse Annex so that will be the address to obtain ID cards and other County Clerk Office services.)

For details on what is needed to obtain a Gold-Star Parent ID card, or any other ID card, please contact 609-989-6018 or visit <http://www.mercercounty.org/government/county-clerk-/office-services> for hours of operation, and for details on what you need to have in terms of identification.



# JUNE 5, 2018 MCBA GOLF DAY

Old York Country Club, 228 Old York Rd.,  
Chesterfield, NJ

**Masters Sponsor \$1,000** Includes your logo on a large banner located on the porch of the clubhouse. Your logo will appear on all marketing materials and this includes lunch and dinner.

**Putting Contest Sponsor \$750** Includes signage at the putting contest, your two representatives at the contest measuring the putts, keeping score and presenting the winner with their prize at dinner. Your logo will be on all marketing materials and this includes lunch and dinner.

**Beverage Sponsor \$600** Includes signage at the event & lunch and dinner.

**Lunch Sponsor \$500** Includes signage in the dining room, one of your representatives joins us at lunch and dinner, your logo on all marketing materials

**Closest to Pin Sponsor \$350** Includes signage on the hole, one of your representatives joins us at lunch and dinner, and your logo on all marketing materials. Sponsor can present award to contest winner at dinner.

**Longest Drive Sponsor \$350** Includes signage on the hole, one of your representatives joins us at lunch and dinner and your logo on all marketing materials. Sponsor can present award to contest winner at dinner.

**Desserts Sponsor \$300** Includes signage in the dining room at the dessert table.

**Prize Sponsor \$250** Includes signage at the prize table.

**Hole Sponsor \$200** Includes your name or company on the tee and your logo in our ad brochure.

Accepting Visa, MasterCard and American Express for your convenience:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Golf Shirt Men's \_\_\_\_\_ Women's \_\_\_\_\_ Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

48 hours written notice required for cancellation and refund \* A \$15.00 processing fee will be charged to all cancellation. Payments are not deductible as a charitable contribution for Federal Income Tax purposes but may be deductible under other provisions as a business expense.

Email: [info@mercerbar.com](mailto:info@mercerbar.com) with your foursome names and registration form.



Registration & Lunch: 11:30 am

Golf Shotgun: 1:00 pm

Dinner & auction: 5:00 pm

Purchase your MCBA

Under Armour Golf Shirt

Women's \$45 Men's \$50

**GOLF & MEALS: \$150 per person**  
includes: green fees; beverage  
cart during play, lunch and  
dinner with cash bar

**LUNCH ONLY: \$25 members/\$45**  
non-members includes cold  
beverages, cash bar

**DINNER ONLY: \$45 member/\$65**  
non-member, cash bar

**LUNCH & DINNER ONLY: \$65**  
members/\$85 non-members,  
cash bar

Putting contest: Quality at practice green during round Finals immediately following the round.

Tournament Prizes: Closest to the pin, longest drive, low net and gross.

CONTACT US:

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F 609.585.5537

[www.mercerbar.com](http://www.mercerbar.com)

## Law Day May 4, 2018

We recently celebrated Law Day 2018 throughout Mercer County in middle schools throughout Mercer County, as well as the Criminal Court-house. The MCBA Public Education Committee, led by Judge Sarah Crowley and First Assistant Mercer County Prosecutor Doris Galuchie, organized a mock trial to demonstrate the theme, Separation of Powers. Judge Ronald Susswein choreographed the program and the students loved the skit. The mock trial, Ruddy Rapper vs. State of new Jersey, was engaging and well received by all. Thank you to everyone that participated and worked to make this day successful!



## *How Baby Group Saved My Career* *By Tirza H. Wahrman, Esq.*

**I**t was 1990. Our children were born within a few weeks and months of each other. Through a neighbor, Dawn, with a new baby girl, I was invited to join a new baby group during my eleven-week maternity leave from the Port Authority Law Department. A relatively older first-time mom at 33, I was not a natural at caring for my adorable but fussy infant girl. Dropping my usual shyness, I jumped at the invitation. “Sure; when do we meet? And what can I bring?” Car seats in those days were bulky and I was just managing to clumsily transport little Ella from our home, armed with diaper bag and supplies.

In the years that followed, I would turn to this group of mothers for child advice, for work advice, and everything in between. They were the sauce that helped to fuel me as I wrote an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court, argued motions on a regular basis, hired and fired babysitters, and jumbled a hectic family life—some days better than others. They were my partners then and still today, even though we are miles away.

Our first meeting, so many years ago, is fresh in my mind. I walked into Kayla’s sun-dappled kitchen. There was Kayla’s own mom, a former teacher. She sat with us, and said: “You don’t know it, girls (yes she called us girls), but these are the best years of your lives...” I do not look back at those times with rose-colored glasses. My maternity leave with Ella was short; the transition back to my in-house job at the Port Authority was not so smooth. I came to work often tired. I had the luxury of being able to close my office door and nod off a few minutes, and I did. Still, I was not the most patient mom. I knew as hard as it was to “strike a balance” that I very much wanted to work. I was after all a feminist, and had spent years training to be a lawyer; I did not want to rely on my husband for financial support. And importantly, for this work-family drama we were about to embark on, he liked the financial secu-

rity of having a wife who worked outside the home. Of course, there were things both my husband and I missed: the first time Ella ate solid food; her first steps.

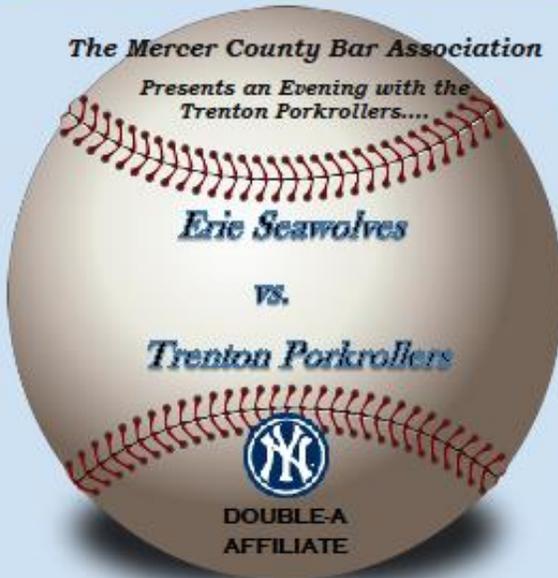
And, I had a number of advantages at the time: a Supervisor who offered me a part-time work schedule when I first returned; the ability to afford first-rate (expensive) child care; a supportive group of moms who would adjust the day of the week baby group would meet to accommodate my work schedule. So, while we normally met on a Tuesday, if I had to be in court that day or had an important meeting, baby group would meet on another day. And baby group taught me the simple things that perhaps my own mother would have taught me if she lived around the corner...but back then she was several states away in Florida.

What else stands out from our first meeting? Another mom, Delores, holds her son, Peter, who at six months looks like a giant compared to petite Ella. Delores looks at me with a sweet smile and says: “wow your little one is a squirmer. Let me put Peter down and show you how to hold Ella.” Delores gently rocks her and supporting her neck holds Ella upright...Ella lets out a huge burp and we both see a little smile on her face.





The Mercer County Bar Association  
Presents an Evening with the  
Trenton Porkrollers....



**Friday, June 15, 2018**

**7:00 pm Picnic Area**

*Arrive at the Arm & Hammer Park early and  
receive a Gary Sanchez Bobblehead!!!*

Bring your family and join friends & colleagues for an extraordinary fun-filled evening of Trenton Thunder Baseball.

**All tickets must be purchased in advance by 5/25/18**

**Children (0-3) Free Children(4-6) \$15.00 Adults \$30.00**

Price includes: All-you-can-eat barbecue, pork roll, & fountain refreshments. (Cash Bar)

Trenton Thunder June 15, 2018 7:00pm

Name \_\_\_\_\_ # Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Children 4-6 \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Women Lawyers Committee Invites You to Join Us  
for an Ethics Seminar and Wine Tasting**

Dance Pavilion at Rat's Restaurant  
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15 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton, NJ 08619

Thursday, June 14, 2018 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.  
1.0 Ethics CLE NJ/NY/PA  
NJ Provider # 268; PA Provider # 1006

**With Panelists:**

*New Jersey Senator Linda Greenstein  
Hon. Christine M. Gravelle, U.S.B.C.  
Hon. Darlene J. Pereksta, J.S.C.  
Hon. Kay Walcott-Henderson, J.S.C.*

**Moderated by: MCBA President Angelo J. Onofri, Esq.**  
Event sponsored by:



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Registration until June 7<sup>th</sup>: \$65 Members / \$115 Non-members  
Registration after June 7<sup>th</sup>: \$75 Members / \$125 Non-members  
PA Credits: \$7.50 Member / \$15 Non-members  
NY Credits: \$5.00 Member / \$10 Non-members  
**Members must be in good standing to get member pricing**  
Price Includes: Wine Tasting & Appetizers

This program had been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 1.0 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 1.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism, and 0.0 qualify as hours of credit toward certification in civil trial law, criminal trial law, workers compensation law, municipal court law, and/or matrimonial law.

☒ Send or fax your reservations to: Mercer County Bar Association, 1245 Whitehorse-Mercerville Rd., Suite 420, Hamilton, NJ 08619; (609) 585-6200 FAX (609) 585-5537 Email: [info@mercerbar.com](mailto:info@mercerbar.com) or online at: [www.mercerbar.com](http://www.mercerbar.com)

WLC Ethics June 14, 2018  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
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CLE Credit (check all that apply):  NY  PA # \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Paid: \_\_\_\_\_  
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2401335.2

## Mercer Vicinage Phone Update

Effective Monday, April 30, telephone numbers for Superior Court offices and chambers in the Mercer Vicinage will change. The new phone system will require callers to dial the main telephone number followed by a five-digit extension. The main telephone number is 609-571-4200. An automated attendant will guide callers through the main menu and a spell by name telephone directory. Generally, extensions will be a 7 plus the last four digits of the old phone number. Fax numbers will not be changed.

A complete listing of new telephone numbers can be found at <https://www.njcourts.gov/courts/vicinages/mercerc.html>.



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