

Dear Essex Legal Community:

I hope this message finds all of you and your families healthy and safe. The COVID-19 health crisis has required an unprecedented response by the judiciary under the leadership of Chief Justice Stuart Rabner and Acting Director of the Courts, Judge Glenn Grant. This is a fluid situation but I would like to update you as to where we are now. If you have any questions, please email Wendy Deer at wsdeer@essexbar.com so that she can forward them to our court staff. We are working and we will respond.

Here is the latest information:

- The courts are not closed. However, we are trying to keep as many people out of the courthouse as we can. A skeleton crew of staff (practicing social distancing, hand washing, wiping down work stations, etc.) are stopping all people that enter the courthouse to re-direct them. We are taking down their information and advising all litigants that only emergent proceedings are occurring at the courthouse. If their matter is not emergent, they will be re-noticed when a new date is scheduled. We are also advising litigants that no bench warrants will be issued for missed court dates.
- Currently, a reduced volume of probationers and pre-trial monitoring defendants are still appearing at the courthouse. Most of the reporting moving forward will be done telephonically.
- We continue to strive towards full remote access to the courts. When we are up and running, court sessions will be held virtually and streamed on-line for the public. Currently, CJP and Detention hearings are already being streamed online. Notice of this has been posted at our entrances advising of this information. We will continue to handle emergent applications. Please call or email the court if you need to file an emergent matter. The contact information is listed below.
- All other non-emergent court matters will be rescheduled and notices with the new dates will be provided.

I want to thank all of you for your patience and cooperation. We will get through this crisis by working together. I will update the Bar as new information becomes available.

Hon. Sallyanne Floria, A.J.S.C.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Family Division

Family Division Manager, Kesha Manning (Kesha.Manning@njcourts.gov)
973-776-9300 ext. 56718

Criminal Division

Criminal Division Manager, Debbie Despotovich (Debbie.Despotovich@njcourts.gov)
973-776-9300 ext. 56769

Civil Division and General Equity

Civil Division Manager, Debra Dadic (Debra.Dadic@njcourts.gov)
973-776-9300

General Equity – ext. 56900

Civil Assignment – ext. 56904

Customer Service – ext. 56800

Landlord/Tenant – ext. 56894

New Jersey Courts: www.njcourts.gov

Essex Vicinage Courts: <https://www.njcourts.gov/courts/vicinages/essex.html>
