



NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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July 2, 2020

Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice
New Jersey Supreme Court
Hughes Justice Complex/ P.O. Box 037
Trenton, NJ 08625-0037

Re: Recommendations for Resumption of Jury Trials

Dear Chief Justice Rabner:

I am pleased to share with you a report and recommendations for the resumption of jury trials in the New Jersey courts. The report was prepared by a committee of the New Jersey State Bar Association's Pandemic Task Force, and has been reviewed and endorsed by the NJSBA, the New Jersey Association for Justice (NJAJ) and the Trial Attorneys of New Jersey (TANJ). Both NJAJ and TANJ are organizations whose members include trial practitioners representing clients from across the spectrum, and those organizations join the NJSBA in presenting these recommendations to the Court.

The recommendations contained in the attached report represent the end result of hours of collective thought, analysis and debate among practitioners who are regularly engaged in trial practice on behalf of their clients.

The NJSBA offers these recommendations in the spirit of working cooperatively with the Court to resume court operations in a way that balances safety considerations against a litigant's right to present their cases for resolution before a fair, representative and impartial jury.

I hope you will consider the recommendations contained in this report as the Court works to finalize its plans to resume jury trials. The NJSBA stands ready to assist the Court in that endeavor in whatever it can.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kimberly A. Yonta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kimberly A. Yonta, Esq.
President

cc: Hon. Glenn A. Grant., J.A.D., Acting Administrative Director of the Courts
Steven Bonville, Esq., Chief of Staff
Domenick Carmagnola, Esq. NJSBA President-Elect
Thomas H. Prol, Esq., Chair, NJSBA Pandemic Task Force
Edward P. Capozzi, Esq., President, NJAJ
John E. Hogan, Esq., President, TANJ
Angela C. Scheck, NJSBA Executive Director