



NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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March 23, 2021

The Honorable Nicholas P. Scutari
1514 E. Saint Georges Avenue, 2nd Floor
Linden, New Jersey 07036

Re: Judicial Vacancies

Dear Senator Scutari:

I thank you on behalf of the New Jersey State Bar Association for your time last week to discuss judicial vacancies. This is an issue of enormous importance to us, especially now given the historical number of vacancies that we are seeing this year. Despite the pandemic, court houses have been opened – albeit virtually. Moreover, the need for the judiciary has actually increased, not decreased, since the pandemic.

With this in mind, we are pleased that you are planning to move forward on filling these vacancies. We were gratified to see 12 candidates being considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee. The need for a strong judiciary prepared to take on the anticipated increase in cases – especially in landlord/tenant and criminal matters – is pressing, and your swift response signals a promising commitment to meet this demand.

The NJSBA remains committed to abide by the Hughes Compact to provide a fair, impartial and independent review of the judicial candidates presented for consideration. We look forward to continuing the good work of the Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee.

Thank you for your commitment to this important issue. On behalf of the NJSBA, thank you for your strong leadership.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimberly A. Yonta". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kimberly A. Yonta
President

cc: Angela Scheck, NJSBA Executive Director
Domenick Carmagnola, Esq., NJSBA President-Elect