

NOTICE TO THE BAR

TRAINING/RESOURCE MATERIALS TO ASSIST ATTORNEYS ASSIGNED PRO BONO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONTEMPT MATTERS

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner last year formed a working group to develop training and resource materials for pro bono attorneys assigned to represent a defendant charged with contempt of a domestic violence restraining order. The training materials are intended to provide guidance to attorneys assigned these mandatory pro bono cases so that they may provide effective representation for their assigned clients.

The material developed by the Working Group, entitled “Defending a Domestic Violence Contempt Case,” is posted on the Judiciary’s website (NJCourts.com) under “Attorney Pro Bono Information and Materials” at <http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/probono/index.htm>. Although it was developed to assist pro bono attorneys, private defense counsel or prosecutors involved in litigating a domestic violence contempt case also may find the manual helpful.

The Working Group on Pro Bono Attorney Training Materials-Domestic Violence Contempt Matters consisted of the following individuals, all of whom have significant experience and expertise in domestic violence law and procedure: Superior Court Judge Honora O’Brien Kilgallen, who chaired the Working Group; Superior Court Judge E. David Millard; Municipal Court Vicinage Presiding Judge Louis J. Belasco; Gina G. Bellucci, Esq.; Douglas Meckel; Richard Potter, Esq.; Robert E. Ramsey, Esq.; and Susan Silver, Esq. Carol A. Welsch, Esq., and Krista Carbone, D.V.S., of the Administrative Office of the Court, provided staff assistance to the Working Group.

Similar efforts are under way to develop training and resource materials for attorneys assigned pro bono parole revocation matters and municipal court appeals. Those materials will be posted at a later date.

/s/ Glenn A. Grant

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Acting Administrative Director
of the Courts

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