



News Release

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Jennifer M. Perez Named Director of Trial Court Services

Acting Administrative Director Judge Glenn A. Grant today named Jennifer M. Perez director of Trial Court Services for the New Jersey Judiciary. She succeeds Robert W. Smith, who recently retired.

Perez will oversee the Judiciary's five case management divisions, criminal, civil, family, municipal, and probation, in addition to the automated trial court services and the programs and procedures units. She will play a critical role in strategic planning and project implementation and monitoring for the Judiciary and will work closely with other senior managers to ensure the smooth operation of the courts.

"Jennifer Perez is a respected and innovative leader," said Judge Grant. "After reorganizing and modernizing operations in our Superior Court Clerk's Office, she partnered with ITO in leading our eCourts project and has made significant strides in moving us in the direction of building a paperless court system. I know that she will bring the same skill and dedication to her new role as director of Trial Court Services."

Perez holds a bachelor's degree from St. Joseph's University and a law degree from Rutgers Law School-Camden. She served as a law clerk to Superior Court Judge Joseph M. Nardi Jr. before joining the firm of Klein and Halden as an associate. She later worked at Dubois, Sheehan, Hamilton & Levin.

In 1998, Perez joined the judiciary as a court services supervisor in the family division of the Camden Vicinage. She was named civil division manager for the vicinage in 2002. In 2008, Perez was named clerk of the Superior Court. Since 2013, she has been the chief of the automated trial court services unit at the Administrative Office of the Courts, which provides requirements for system development, application testing, and direct user support and training. In this role, she oversees both legacy system maintenance and the transition to modern technology initiatives, such as the Judiciary's eCourts project.

While at the Judiciary, Perez received training as a certified public manager and completed her training through the National Center for State Courts' Institute for Court Management. She has served on the Supreme Court Special Committee on Electronic Filing and the Advisory Committee on Public Access to Court Records, and currently serves on the Advisory Committee on Information Technology.

“Serving Judge Nardi as a law clerk 20 years ago, I could not have imagined where my career with the Judiciary would lead me. Having worked in a number of roles, I am keenly aware of the wide range of issues facing our organization, and I continue to be amazed by the talent and commitment of our judges and staff,” said Perez. “I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the public in this new role, and I want to thank my colleagues for their ongoing support and partnership.”

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