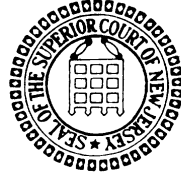


SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

CHAMBERS OF
LISA P. THORNTON
ASSIGNMENT JUDGE



MONMOUTH COUNTY COURT HOUSE
71 MONUMENT PARK
FREEHOLD, NEW JERSEY 07728-1266
TELEPHONE (732) 677-4100

For immediate release: April 13, 2015

For more information contact:
Rosemarie Marinan-Gabriel, Family Division Manager
732-677-4304

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WAITING ROOM AND “SIGN-IN” KIOSK ESTABLISHED IN THE MONMOUTH VICINAGE FAMILY DIVISION

The Monmouth Vicinage has opened a domestic violence waiting room that helps provide more effective service and security to clients dealing with highly emotional and personal domestic violence matters.

Victims of domestic violence or plaintiffs are told to report to the waiting room after a temporary restraining order is granted in municipal court. Representatives from 180 Turning Lives Around, a private, non-profit organization dedicated to ending domestic and sexual violence, are available in the waiting room to answer questions.

The plaintiff is asked to sign in using an electronic kiosk system that helps streamline the process and automatically notifies court staff of their arrival. The plaintiff remains in the waiting room until they are escorted to the courtroom for a final hearing.

The defendant is instructed to report directly to the family division reception unit, where they are met and searched by a sheriff's officer before they are brought into court. The procedure minimizes the possibility of both parties being together in a common area without the presence of a sheriff's officer.

The introduction of the domestic violence waiting room has increased the level of safety for domestic violence litigants while ensuring the dignity, civility, and respect they deserve. For more information contact Rosemarie Marinan-Gabriel at 732-677-4304.

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