

# News Release



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## **Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage to Host Domestic Violence Awareness Conference**

The Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage will host a conference on Monday, July 16 to discuss the issues surrounding domestic violence.

The half-day Domestic Violence Awareness Conference, to be held at Stockton University in Pomona, will include representatives from the Judiciary, service providers, local government and law enforcement, as well as domestic violence victims and survivors.

The conference is open to community partners and agencies committed to addressing domestic violence issues, assisting victims and families, and preventing future violence.

Superior Court Judge Nancy L. Ridgway will offer opening and closing remarks.

“Domestic violence continues to affect individuals and families, in particular children, of all backgrounds, ethnicities and socioeconomic statuses. This conference will bring awareness to the community of this difficult issue, the goal being to end relationship violence once and for all,” Judge Ridgway said.

Nicole Morella, director of public policy and communications at New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence, will provide an overview of the cycle of domestic violence and statewide services designed to break the cycle.

Superior Court Judge Louis J. Belasco will moderate the conference.

“In 1991, the New Jersey Legislature declared that domestic violence is a serious crime against society. It remains today. The Judiciary, press and our community will come together to discuss why it continues and how we can reduce its impact,” Judge Belasco said.

Registration begins at 8 a.m., followed by opening remarks at 9 a.m. by Assignment Judge Julio L. Mendez.

The conference is free but registration is encouraged.

To RSVP, contact Ellen Procida at [Ellen.procida@njcourts.gov](mailto:Ellen.procida@njcourts.gov).

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