

News Release



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STUART RABNER

Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court

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For immediate release: **Feb. 19, 2021**

Chief Justice Names Judge Jeffrey R. Jablonski to Lead Hudson Vicinage

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner today announced that Superior Court Judge Jeffrey R. Jablonski will lead the Hudson Vicinage, effective April 1, 2021.

Judge Jablonski will succeed Judge Peter F. Bariso Jr., who is retiring after 16 years on the bench, the last nine as assignment judge.

“Judge Jablonski is a wise and thoughtful jurist who is poised to continue the culture of excellence in the Hudson Vicinage fostered under Judge Bariso’s leadership. I am confident that Hudson County, and the Judiciary as a whole, will be well served under his stewardship,” Chief Justice Rabner said.

Judge Jablonski has served as the presiding judge of the chancery division in the Hudson Vicinage since 2018. He was appointed to the bench on March 5, 2013, by Gov. Chris Christie, serving first in the civil division, where he was supervising judge of the special civil part before being selected as the complex litigation judge. He was reappointed by Gov. Phil Murphy and received tenure on Feb. 13, 2020.

Prior to his judicial career, Judge Jablonski was in private practice from 1997 to 2013, focusing on family law, real estate, civil litigation, as well as criminal trial and appellate defense. He worked for the Office of the Public Defender from 1998 and was a municipal public defender for the town of Kearny from 2001, leaving both positions when he joined the bench in 2013. He began his law career as a clerk for Hudson County Superior Court Judge John A. McLaughlin.

He earned his bachelor’s degree from College of the Holy Cross and his law degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School at Western Michigan University.

“I want to express my sincere gratitude to Chief Justice Rabner for placing his confidence in me to lead the Hudson Vicinage. I look forward to continuing Judge Bariso’s legacy and to working with all of the outstanding judges and staff for the residents of Hudson County,” Judge Jablonski said.

Judge Jablonski lives in Hudson County with his wife and two sons.

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