

## **Excusal of Bar Association Officers and Members from Trial Dates**

Directive # 9-97

January 20, 1997

(Supersedes Directives #3-85 and #5-97)

Issued by:

Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz

This Directive restates the uniform policy established by prior Directive #3-85 regarding attorneys' requests for excusal from trial commitments because of conflicts with their obligations as members, trustees, or officers of the New Jersey State Bar Association.

Trial judges should honor the request of any officer or trustee of the New Jersey State Bar Association to be excused from trial commitments on the day of a scheduled trustees' and officers' meeting. There are approximately 40 trustees and officers and they meet generally 10 times a year. Reasonable notice of such meetings should be given to the Assignment Judge by any trustee or officer who requires an excuse from trial commitments. Assuming such notice is given, denial of a request should be limited to extraordinary circumstances, such as the previous scheduling of a matter involving many attorneys where it is clear that rescheduling will be inordinately difficult. The same policy applies to members of the Judicial and County Prosecutor Appointments Committee (which meets eight or nine times a year), and to those members of the General Council who plan to attend the annual or semi-annual Bar Association General Council meetings, again subject to reasonable prior notice to the court.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

No change has been made to the original text.