

## **SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY**

It is ORDERED that, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:12-9, Municipal Court Judge Robert F. Schaul is designated as the Presiding Judge-Municipal Courts for Vicinage 13 (Somerset, Hunterdon, Warren), effective immediately and until further Order; and

It is FURTHER ORDERED that under the direction of the Vicinage 13 Assignment Judge, Presiding Judge-Municipal Courts Robert F. Schaul will supervise the Vicinage 13 Municipal Division and oversee all Municipal Courts within the Vicinage. The Presiding Judge-Municipal Courts and the Municipal Division Manager shall form the executive component of the Vicinage 13 Municipal Division within the Judiciary's management structure; and

It is FURTHER ORDERED that Presiding Judge-Municipal Courts Robert F. Schaul is hereby delegated authority, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:12-9, to exercise the powers necessary to perform the following administrative duties within Vicinage 13:

1. Be responsible for the implementation and enforcement, within the municipal courts, of all administrative rules, policies and directives of the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice, the Administrative Director and the Vicinage Assignment Judge;
2. Monitor compliance with the provisions of R. 7:6-2(d), regulating the municipal court plea agreement process, including the proper downgrading of matters heard in the various municipal courts;
3. Provide mentoring services to new and experienced municipal court judges;
4. Provide substantive and procedural training for municipal court judges on topics directed at improving the administration of justice, including but not limited to domestic violence, sentencing, search and seizure, plea agreements, bail procedures, evidence, administrative responsibilities, case management techniques (including those related to driving under the influence) and other topics as appropriate;

5. Coordinate and oversee the emergency availability of municipal court judges to handle bail, domestic violence or other emergent matters within the jurisdiction of the municipal court;
6. Perform in-court session visitations with follow-up municipal court judge mentoring, as necessary, to insure the uniform application of the highest standards of justice in processing each case brought before the court;
7. Monitor the uniformity and efficiency of case management in the municipal courts and identify methods for eliminating backlogs and efficiently processing all cases;
8. Monitor the annual municipal court budget process, prior to and following submission to the Assignment Judge, to insure that upon adoption of the budget, each municipal court will have sufficient resources to operate properly;
9. Manage the resolution of citizen, attorney or other grievances concerning the operation or administration of the municipal courts within the vicinage;
10. Implement policies, procedures and programs established by the Vicinage Assignment Judge;
11. Perform other management and supervisory duties when assigned by the Vicinage Assignment Judge; and

It is FURTHER ORDERED that Presiding Judge-Municipal Courts Robert F. Schaul is hereby delegated authority, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:12-9, to exercise the powers necessary to perform the following judicial duties within Vicinage 13:

1. Conduct arraignments and first appearances within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Courts, as needed, pursuant to law and the Rules of Court;

2. Set bail on matters within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Courts, as needed, pursuant to law and the Rules of Court; and
3. Preside over matters within the jurisdiction of the municipal courts, when designated by the Vicinage Assignment Judge, pursuant to law and the Rules of Court.

This Order supersedes the Order dated January 4, 2007 by which Judge Schaul was designated as the Acting Presiding Judge-Municipal Courts for Vicinage 13.

/s/ Stuart Rabner

Chief Justice

Dated: November 5, 2007