

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

It is ORDERED that, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:12-9, Municipal Court **Judge John F. Meola** is designated as the Presiding Judge-Municipal Courts for Vicinage 11 (Passaic County), effective immediately and until further Order; and

It is FURTHER ORDERED that, under the direction of the Vicinage 11 Assignment Judge, Presiding Judge Meola will supervise the Vicinage 11 Municipal Division and oversee all municipal courts within the vicinage. The Presiding Judge and the Municipal Division Manager shall form the executive component of the Vicinage 11 Municipal Division within the Judiciary's management structure; and

It is FURTHER ORDERED that Presiding Judge Meola 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 11:

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 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 to both 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, Criminal Justice Reform, 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 mentoring, as necessary, to ensure 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 ensure 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 Meola is hereby delegated authority, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:12-9, to exercise the powers necessary to perform judicial duties attendant to presiding over matters within the jurisdiction of the Vicinage 11 municipal courts, when designated by the Vicinage Assignment Judge, pursuant to law and the Rules of Court.

This Order supersedes the September 16, 2015 Order that designated Judge Meola as Acting Presiding Judge for Vicinage 11.


Chief Justice

Dated: September 20, 2017