SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

STUART RABNER
CHIEF JUSTICE

RICHARD J. HUGHES JUSTICE COMPLEX
PO BOX 023
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0023

Directive #03-19
[Supersedes Directive #01-08]

TO: **Assignment Judges**

FROM: **Chief Justice Stuart Rabner** SSR

SUBJECT: **Excusal of New Jersey State Bar Association Officers, Trustees, and Members from Trial Dates to Attend Bar Association Meetings**

DATE: **March 12, 2019**

Consistent with the long-standing policy established by prior directives, this superseding directive is issued to reaffirm the previously stated principles set forth most recently in Directive #1-08 regarding the excusal of New Jersey State Bar Association officers, trustees, and members from trial dates to attend Bar Association meetings.

Trial judges should honor the requests of any officer or trustee of the New Jersey State Bar Association to be excused from trial commitments on the day of a scheduled NJSBA trustees and/or officers meeting. There continues to be approximately 40-50 NJSBA trustees and officers, and they meet ten or so 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 specific trial commitments. When reasonable 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 the rescheduling would prove very difficult. The same policy continues to apply to members of the NJSBA's Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee, 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.

cc: Hon. Glenn A. Grant, Administrative Director
Hon. Carmen Messano
Hon. Jack Sabatino
Hon. Joseph Andresini
Steven D. Bonville, Chief of Staff
AOC Directors and Assistant Directors
Clerks of Court
Trial Court Administrators
Special Assistants to the Administrative Director