

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

The Supreme Court today is comprised of four members who have been nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. There are three vacancies. A judge of the Appellate Division, the Hon. Jose L. Fuentes, is temporarily assigned to the Court to fill one of those vacancies.

Judge Fuentes is scheduled to retire on September 1, 2022, which will leave the Court without a quorum for the start of the 2022-2023 term. See N.J. Const. art. VI, § II, ¶ 1 (“Five members of the court shall constitute a quorum.”). Beyond that, a full complement of seven members is needed to address the work of the Court.

Article VI, section II, paragraph 1 of the New Jersey Constitution and Rule 2:13-2(a) authorize the Chief Justice, when necessary, to temporarily assign one or more judges of the Appellate Division who are senior in service to the Supreme Court. At this time, the Honorable Carmen Messano, Chief Judge of the Appellate Division, waives that assignment. See R. 2:13-2(a).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, pursuant to the authority set forth in Article VI, section II, paragraph 1 of the New Jersey Constitution and Rule 2:13-2(a), that the Honorable Clarkson S. Fisher, Jr., Jack M.

Sabatino, and Douglas M. Fasciale, Presiding Judges of the Appellate Division who are senior in service, shall be assigned temporarily to the Supreme Court to participate in new matters presented for the Court's consideration.

Those reassignments will have a significant effect on the Appellate Division.

IT IS THEREFORE FURTHER ORDERED that, to allow for an orderly transition and also enable the Supreme Court and the Appellate Division to prepare for the upcoming term, the temporary assignment of Judges Fisher, Sabatino, and Fasciale announced today shall go into effect on September 1, 2022, and shall continue until further Order.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stuart Rosen", is written above the title "Chief Justice".

Chief Justice

Dated: August 15, 2022