

## News Release

www.njcourts.com

Dec. 4, 2014

For immediate release:

For more information: Winnie Comfort Tammy Kendig 609-292-9580

## Judiciary Releases Bench Manual on Jury Selection

The Judiciary has published a <u>Bench Manual on Jury Selection</u>, Chief Justice Stuart Rabner announced today. The manual, which can be accessed at njcourts.com, is a convenient resource for judges, attorneys, and others looking for policies and procedures related to jury selection in criminal and civil court.

"The Bench Manual on Jury Selection will provide additional guidance to attorneys and judges about an important phase of the trial process," said Chief Justice Rabner. "This project is part of a continuing effort by judges and attorneys to improve the voir dire process."

The manual was drafted by the New Jersey Supreme Court's Committee on Jury Selection in Civil and Criminal Trials. Established in 2004, the committee is chaired by Appellate Judge Susan L. Reisner, with Assignment Judge Georgia M. Curio serving as vice- chair. The committee comprises judges and attorneys, including representatives from the New Jersey Bar Associations and other attorney groups. The committee will continue to update the manual to reflect developments in case law, new legislation, and other changes to the jury selection process.

Judge Glenn A. Grant, acting administrative director of the courts, said, "The bench manual will provide greater uniformity during juror voir dire to provide information and guidance to judges in order to assist them in addressing the myriad of issues that can arise during the juror selection phase of a trial."

###