

#011



Reply to:
Garden State Bar Association
P. O. Box 7316
Trenton, NJ 08628
Tel: (609) 379-3159

OFFICERS

John P. Kahn, Esq.
President

Akinyemi T. Akiwowo, Esq.
President-Elect

Crystal West Edwards, Esq.
Vice-President

Ronni M. Bright, Esq.
Secretary

Lloyd Freeman, Esq.
Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

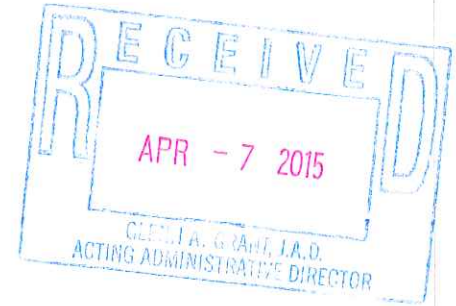
Olajide A. Araromi, Esq.
Ronald W. Brown, Esq., MBA
Portia N. Downing, Esq.
James R. Fridie, III, Esq.
Lloyd D. Henderson, Jr., Esq.
Demona L. Herrin, Esq.
James A. Lewis, V., Esq.
Amber J. Loughran, Esq.
Estelle Joy Munn, Esq.
Anthony C. Nwaneri, Esq.
Christopher Roberts, Esq.

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT &
BOARD MEMBER**

Steve G. Hockaday, Esq.

April 1, 2015

The Honorable Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts
Rules Comments
Hughes Justice Complex
P.O. Box 037
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0037



**RE: Comment on the 2013-2015 Supreme Court Rules Committee
on Minority Concerns Report**

Dear Judge Grant:

Pursuant to Your Honor's February 11, 2015 Notice to the Bar, the undersigned, John P. Kahn, Esq. and Anthony C. Nwaneri, Esq., on behalf of the Garden State Bar Association ("GSBA"), write to endorse the recommendations included in the 2013-2015 Supreme Court Rules Committee on Minority Concerns report.

While the GSBA endorses this report as a whole, of specific import is Recommendation 15:04.2, which urges that the annual attorney registration process be amended to include the solicitation of race/ethnic information, and other identifying demographic data, such as gender and sexual orientation, and veterans and disability status.

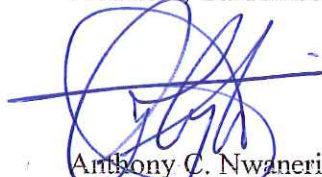
Once collected, we believe that this data will be instrumental in providing the judiciary and the various bar associations with a credible baseline as to how many attorneys of color there are in New Jersey. Further, collection of this data would assist the GSBA in accomplishing a number of its stated goals, such as, monitoring the current status of Black attorneys in the legal profession, increasing the membership and participation of Black professionals in the legal discourse, and making recommendations to the New Jersey Supreme Court, the New Jersey State Legislature, and New Jersey State Bar Association for action on issues affecting minorities in the profession.

The GSBA fully supports and endorses the Committee on Minority Concerns' report, and urges the Supreme Court to adopt the Committee's recommendations in total, particularly, Recommendation 15:04.2.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J.P. Kahn', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John P. Kahn, Esq.
President, Garden State Bar Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. Nwaneri', with a large circular flourish and a horizontal line crossing through it.

Anthony C. Nwaneri, Esq.
Chair of the Legislative Committee,
Garden State Bar Association

An affiliate of the National Bar Association