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## NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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September 30, 2016

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

**Re: Comments on Report of the Supreme Court Working Group on the Indiscriminate Shackling of Juveniles in Court**

Dear Judge Grant:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Report of the Supreme Court Working Group on the Indiscriminate Shackling of Juveniles in Court. The New Jersey State Bar Association supports the recommendations contained in the report, and urges the Court to adopt them. In particular, the association agrees that juveniles should not be shackled during a court proceeding unless the use of restraints is necessary to prevent physical harm or flight from the courtroom, and there are no less restrictive alternatives available. Further, when restraints are being considered, we agree that both the juvenile's attorney and the prosecutor should have an opportunity to be heard before a final decision is made.

Moreover, we applaud the diligent efforts of the Working Group in formulating these comprehensive and thoughtful recommendations and commend them to you for adoption.

Thank you, once again, for permitting the NJSBA to participate in this process. If you have any questions regarding our recommendations, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Scheck or me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Prol", is written over a horizontal line.

Thomas H. Prol  
President

C: Robert B. Hille, Esq., NJSBA President-Elect  
Angela C. Scheck, NJSBA Executive Director