SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY OCEAN COUNTY VICINAGE

CHAMBERS OF MADELIN F. EINBINDER, PJFP



OCEAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE 120 HOOPER AVENUE – CR#14 P.O. BOX 2191 - JCPX TOMS RIVER, NJ 08753-2191 (732) 504.0700 ext. 64220

- TO: Glenn A. Grant, Administrative Director of the Courts
- FROM: Madelin F. Einbinder, P.J.F.P. Chair, Conference of Family Presiding Judges
- RE: Comments on the Report and Recommendations of the Supreme Court Special Committee on the Non-Dissolution (FD) Docket
- DATE: November 16, 2022

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Report of the Special Committee on the Non-Dissolution (FD) Docket (Report). The Conference of Family Presiding Judges (Conference) would like to express its unanimous support for the report in its entirety and particularly for Recommendation Nine, "Cases designated as complex should be relieved of the 90-day resolution expectation."

The Conference believes the time extension is essential to permit the court the opportunity to properly address the complex issues that are prevalent in the FD docket. As indicated in the Report, the existing structure is insufficient to effectively resolve and dispose of complex cases. For example, complex track cases often require the submission of reports from physicians, mental health professionals, forensic accountants, custody evaluators and other experts. Obtaining these reports within the current timeframe is challenging. This is also true of other needed discovery including interrogatories, notices to produce, and depositions. This information is essential for the court to conduct meaningful and productive hearings. Further, by extending the time for disposition, litigants and their attorneys will be afforded more time needed to prepare their case.

Comments on the Report and Recommendations of the Supreme Court Special Committee on FD Docket November 16, 2022 Page 2

The Conference appreciates the opportunity to submit its comments. The Conference further wishes to commend the volunteer members of the Special Committee for their efforts.

cc: Hon. Bonnie J. Mizdol, Committee Chair Hon. Hany A. Mawla, Committee Vice-Chair Family Presiding Judges Steven D. Bonville, Chief of Staff Jennifer M. Perez, Director, Trial Court Services Joanne M. Dietrich, Assistant Director, Family Practice Special Assistants to the Administrative Director Family Division Managers AOC Family Practice Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs Emily Mari, Family Practice Division