

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY
C-421 September Term 2025
091401

Estate of Victor Gaza, Jr.
by Purita Gaza, the
Administratrix of the Estate of
Victor Gaza, Jr. and Purita
Gaza, his wife, individually,
Plaintiffs-Respondents,

v.

Joseph Popovich, M.D.,
Defendant-Petitioner,
and

Ana J. Icabceta, R.N., Ann
Marie Altoonian, R.N.,
Kathleen O'Sullivan, R.N.,
Damaris Rodriguez, R.N.,
Hudson Hospital OPCO, LLC
d/b/a Carepoint Health-Christ
Hospital, Phoenix Health Care,
Inc., Onward Healthcare,
Peter Goldsmith, M.D., Jim
Nguyen, D.O., Nilda A. Marcelo,
R.N., and Wilbur Montana, D.O.,
Defendants,

and

Joseph Popovich, M.D.,
Defendant/Third-Party
Plaintiff-Petitioner,

v.

Nilda A. Marcelo, R.N.,
Jim Nguyen, D.O., and
Wilbur Montana, D.O.,
Third-Party Defendants.

O R D E R

A petition for certification of the judgment in A-002310-22

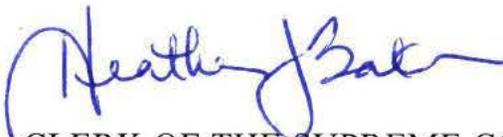
having been submitted to this Court, and the Court having considered the
same;

It is ORDERED that the petition for certification is granted;

It is further ORDERED that the following peremptory briefing schedule is established for this appeal:

- Appellant's brief is due by May 6, 2026.
- Respondents' brief is due by June 5, 2026.
- Motions for leave to appear as amicus curiae and proposed amicus merits briefs are due by June 15, 2026. The Court will not accept motions to extend or relax the time for filing an amicus motion or brief.
- Appellant may file a reply brief by June 29, 2026. Appellant's reply brief should include responses, if any, to the merits of any proposed amicus curiae briefs. If appellant opposes participation by any proposed amicus party, appellant may file an answer in opposition to the amicus motion(s) also on June 29, 2026.
- Respondents may file a brief responding to the merits of any proposed amicus curiae brief by June 29, 2026. If respondents oppose participation by any proposed amicus party, respondents may file an answer in opposition to the amicus motion(s) also on June 29, 2026.

WITNESS, the Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice, at Trenton, this
24th day of March, 2026.


CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT