# The New Jersey Judiciary's Title II ADA Procedures for Access to the Courts By Individuals with Disabilities



The Judiciary ensures that its courts, programs, services, and activities are accessible to all members of the community and prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities

## Relevant Provisions of the Judiciary Policy Prohibiting Discrimination Against Individuals with Disabilities

#### Court users

The Judiciary is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination (NJLAD), and other applicable anti-discrimination statutes. The Judiciary will not discriminate against a court user -- litigants, witnesses, victims, spectators, jurors, attorneys, agency representatives, volunteers, probationers and participants in court programs, services and activities -- on the basis of a disability regarding that individual's access to court proceedings, programs, services and activities.

#### Reasonable accommodations

The Judiciary will provide a reasonable accommodation for a court user with a disability, enabling the individual to access and participate in court proceedings, programs, services and activities, provided that the accommodation does not fundamentally alter the nature of a Judiciary program, service or activity or impose an undue hardship upon the Judiciary. A court user with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting the local Title II ADA coordinator listed in this brochure or at njcourts.gov.

## What is the New Jersey Judiciary?

The New Jersey Judiciary consists of the local Superior Courts (the county courts/vicinages) and the central office, which includes the Supreme Court; the Superior Court, Appellate Division; the Superior Court Clerk's Office; the Tax Court; the Disciplinary Review Board; the Office of Attorney Ethics; the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection; the Administrative Office of the Courts; and Probation Services.

### Access by court users with disabilities

Court users with disabilities seek to participate in the court's programs, services and activities. The Judiciary provides court users with disabilities with effective accommodations to give them an equal opportunity to participate.

# What types of accommodations does the Judiciary provide?

The following are examples of accommodations that the Judiciary may provide:

- Interpreters: American Sign Language (ASL), Certified Deaf Interpreters (CDI), oral interpreters, tactile interpreters for people who are deaf and blind and transliterators
- Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) also known as real-time captioning, text in alternative formats, such as Braille, audio access and Assistive Listening Devices (ALD)
- Readers and notetakers
- Alternative seating arrangements and locations
- Modified schedules

## How do I request an accommodation?

You, your lawyer or anyone acting on your behalf, can request an accommodation. For example, when you are in court, you can tell the judge or court staff, such as the court clerk, that you need an accommodation for your next appearance. The Judiciary also has assigned staff who are called Title II ADA coordinators to handle your accommodation request. The Title II ADA coordinators are listed in this brochure and at njcourts.gov.

You can contact the Title II ADA coordinator in the location where your case or matter is being handled or where the Judiciary program, service or activity is provided. There are Title II ADA

coordinators in each Superior Court (county or local courthouse) and the central office. Try to give the court at least two weeks notice before your court appearance. If your matter is emergent, contact the Title II ADA coordinator immediately.

## Can I suggest to the Judiciary what accommodation would work for me?

Yes, the Judiciary encourages you to tell us what kind of accommodation would enable you to effectively participate in the Judiciary's proceedings, programs, services and activities. While we might not be able to fulfill your exact accommodation request, we will strive to provide you with an equal opportunity to participate.

## If my accommodation does not work for me, what do I do?

If you are in a courthouse, you can tell the judge or court staff. You can also always contact the Title II ADA coordinator.

## If I am still not satisfied with my accommodation, what should I do?

If you spoke with the Title II ADA coordinator or court staff about your accommodation, and still feel that your access issue is not resolved, you may file a court user accommodation appeal with the assignment judge in any of the county courthouses or with the administrative director of the courts. The court user accommodation appeal form is available from the local Title II ADA coordinator or at njcourts.gov.

We encourage you to file your appeal as quickly as possible. We will only share information about you that is necessary to address your appeal.

Filing a court user accommodation appeal does not in any way limit or replace other legal remedies that may be available.

# If everything went well with the accommodation provided for me, how do I let the Judiciary know?

You can provide feedback to the Title II ADA coordinator. We appreciate your feedback.

# What do I do if I think I have been discriminated against because of my disability?

If you believe that the Judiciary has discriminated against you based on a disability, you may file an internal EEO/AA complaint with the local EEO/AA officer at the vicinage/county level or the Judiciary Chief EEO/AA Officer, Administrative Office of the Courts, Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex, P.O. Box 037, Trenton, NJ 08625 or at 609-815-2915.

The Judiciary's internal EEO/AA complaint procedures do not prohibit you from filing a complaint with the U.S. Department of Justice, the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights or with any other agency. You should be aware that there are time limits for filing claims with outside agencies. Check with the outside agency for its filing deadlines.

Retaliation against any individual who complains about discrimination, files a discrimination complaint or who assists in the investigation of such complaints is prohibited. If you believe that the Judiciary has retaliated against you, you may file a complaint of retaliation with the local EEO/AA officer at the vicinage/county level or the Judiciary Chief EEO/AA Officer at the central office.

## TTY Users May Contact the NJ Relay Service at 711 or 1-800-852-7897

#### **Local Title II ADA Coordinators**

#### Vicinage 1, Atlantic/Cape May

Atlantic County Civil Court Building Attn: Assistant Trial Court Administrator 1201 Bacharach Blvd. Atlantic City, NJ 08401 609-402-0100 ext. 47031

Atlantic County Criminal Courts Complex (Mays Landing) Attn: Assistant Trial Court Administrator 4997 Unami Blvd. Mays Landing, NJ 08330 609-402-0100 ext. 47031

Cape May County Courthouse Attn: Assistant Trial Court Administrator 9 N. Main St. Cape May Court House, NJ 08210 609-402-0100 ext. 47021

#### Vicinage 2, Bergen

Bergen County Justice Complex Attn: Operations Division 10 Main St., Suite 425 Hackensack, NJ 07601-3672 201-221-0700 ext. 25070

#### Vicinage 3, Burlington

Burlington County Court Facility Attn: Operations Division 49 Rancocas Rd. Mount Holly, NJ 08060 609-288-9500 ext. 38021

#### Vicinage 4, Camden

Camden County Hall of Justice Attn: Operations Division 101 S. 5th St. Camden, NJ 08103 856-650-9100 ext. 43020

#### Vicinage 5, Essex

Veterans Courthouse Attn: Operations Division 50 W. Market St., Rm 514 Newark, NJ 07102 973-776-9300 ext. 55700

#### Vicinage 6, Hudson

Hudson County Admin. Bldg. Attn: Operations Division 595 Newark Ave. Jersey City, NJ 07306 201-748-4400 ext. 66606

#### Vicinage 7, Mercer

Mercer County Courthouse Attn: Operations Division 209 S. Broad St . Trenton, NJ 08650 609-571-4200 ext. 74030

#### Vicinage 8, Middlesex

Middlesex County Courthouse Attn: Operations Division PO Box 964 New Brunswick, NJ 08903-0964 732-645-4300 ext. 88010

#### Vicinage 9, Monmouth

Monmouth County Courthouse Attn: Operations Division 71 Monument Park Freehold, NJ 07728 732-358-8700 ext. 87765

#### Vicinage 10, Morris/Sussex

Morris County Courthouse Attn: Operations Division PO Box 910 Morristown, NJ 07963-0910 862-397-5700 ext. 75022

Sussex County Courthouse Attn: Assistant Trial Court Administrator 43-47 High St. Newton, NJ 07860 862-397-5700 ext. 75041

#### Vicinage 11, Passaic

Passaic County Courthouse Attn: Operations Division 77 Hamilton St. Paterson, NJ 07470 973-653-2910 ext. 24490

#### Vicinage 12, Union

Union County Courthouse Attn: Operations Division 2 Broad St. Elizabeth, NJ 07207 908-787-1650 ext. 22100

#### Vicinage 13, Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren

Somerset County Courthouse Attn: Assistant Trial Court Administrator PO Box 3000, 20 N. Bridge St. Somerville, NJ 08876-1262 908-332-7700 ext. 13750

Hunterdon County Courthouse Attn: Operations Division 65 Park Ave. Flemington, NJ 08822 908-824-9750 ext. 13030

Warren County Courthouse Attn: Operations Division 413 2nd St., P.O. Box 900 Belvidere, NJ 07823 908-750-8100 ext. 13010

#### Local Title II ADA Coordinators (continued)

#### Vicinage 14, Ocean

Ocean County Justice Complex Attn: Operations Division 120 Hooper Ave., Room 240 PO Box 2191 Toms River, NJ 08754 732-504-0700 ext. 64025

#### Vicinage 15, Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem

Cumberland County Courthouse Attn: Assistant Trial Court Administrator Broad & Fayette St. Bridgeton, NJ 08302 856-878-5050, ext. 15236

Gloucester County Justice Complex Attn: Assistant Trial Court Administrator 70 Hunter St. Woodbury NJ 08096 856-878-5050 ext. 15236

Salem County Courthouse Attn: Assistant Trial Court Administrator 92 Market St. Salem, NJ 08079 856-878-5050 ext. 15936

#### **Judiciary Central Office**

#### **Supreme Court**

Deputy Clerk Supreme Court Clerk's Office Justice Complex, PO Box 970 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-815-2955

#### **Superior Court, Appellate Division**

Attn: Deputy Clerk for Administration Justice Complex, PO Box 968 Trenton, NJ 08625-0968 609-815-2950

#### **Administrative Office of the Courts**

Health & Safety Services Justice Complex, PO Box 985 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-815-2900 ext. 54848

#### Office of Attorney Ethics

Deputy Assistant Statewide Ethics Coordinator Supreme Court Clerk's Office Justice Complex, PO Box 970 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-403-7800

#### **Tax Court**

Tax Court Administrator Tax Court Management Office Justice Complex, PO Box 972 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-815-2922

#### **Superior Court Clerk's Office**

Clerk Superior Court Clerk's Office PO Box 971 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-815-2900 ext. 54200

#### **Disciplinary Review Board**

Assistant Counsel PO Box 962 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-815-2920

#### Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection

Deputy Counsel PO Box 961 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-815-3030

#### **Probation Services**

PO Box 974 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-815-3810

## Statewide Judiciary Assistance Person to the Local Title II ADA Coordinators

Chief, Health & Safety Services Justice Complex, PO Box 985 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-815-2900 ext. 54848

## **NEW JERSEY JUDICIARY**

**Stuart Rabner**Chief Justice

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.

Acting Administrative Director
of the Courts

www.njcourts.gov





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