



News Release

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***Judiciary Times* Wins Professional Journalists' Award**

Judiciary Times, the quarterly newsletter of the New Jersey Judiciary, has received a second place ranking in newsletter writing from the New Jersey Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

The publication, edited by Judiciary Publications and Video Production Manager Mike Mathis under the direction of Judiciary Communications and Community Relations Director Winnie Comfort, was one of only two newsletters honored in the Newsletters category. The contest was judged by out-of-state journalism professionals.

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner said, "As our only statewide newsletter, *Judiciary Times* is a critical part of our internal and external communications efforts. We are all very proud of Mike Mathis, who edits the *Times*, as well as the many contributors from around the state whose submissions highlight the good work being done in our court system."

Each quarter, *Judiciary Times* publishes statewide and local news stories about the New Jersey courts, including new programs and services offered by the Judiciary, recent events held around the state and accomplishments of judges and staff.

"*Judiciary Times* keeps court users informed about programs that connect the courts and their communities," said Judge Glenn A. Grant, acting administrative director of the courts.

"Drug courts, adoption day, law day and civics education are just a few of the good programs that have been highlighted in the *Times*. But the newsletter also reports on community crises. The Winter 2012-1013 edition featuring the devastation of court facilities and recovery efforts of staff after Hurricane Sandy was part of the prize-winning package." Judge Grant said.

The Society of Professional Journalists was founded in 1909 to encourage excellence in the journalism field. Emphasizing the critical role that journalists play in making sure that America's citizenry is well-informed, the society aims to protect the freedom of speech and freedom of the press as guaranteed in the Constitution. The New Jersey Chapter of SPJ was founded in 1959, and its annual journalism awards program has grown steadily over the years to become one of the most competitive and prestigious in the state. This year it attracted more than 400 entries.

Judiciary Times is available at njcourts.com

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