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## Law Day Celebration to Be Held at R. J. Hughes Justice Complex

The Judiciary will celebrate Law Day in May with a number of events at the R. J. Hughes Justice Complex in Trenton and in courthouses around the state.

<u>Videotaped remarks by Chief Justice Stuart Rabner</u> marking the occasion can be viewed beginning Thursday, May 1 at njcourts.com. In his remarks, Chief Justice Rabner discusses the 2014 Law Day theme, "American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters."

The theme was chosen to highlight the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the federal Civil Rights Act, which was signed into law on July 2, 1964. The Civil Rights Act outlawed discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, religion and gender, and it protected equal access to the polls for all Americans.

"Law Day is an ideal time to think about the Civil Rights Act and what it means to our democracy. It's also a time to appreciate the importance of voting, which is more than just a civic duty. It's an opportunity for all of us to participate in our democracy and bring about change."

A Law Day celebration will be held at the Justice Complex on Friday, May 2. The event will be co-hosted by the Judiciary, the Department of Law and Public Safety and the Office of the Public Defender.

Judge Glenn A. Grant, acting administrative director of the courts, will officiate at a naturalization ceremony for 50 new citizens at 10 a.m. in the lobby of the Justice Complex.

At 11:30 a.m., Deborah Edwards, counsel to Acting Attorney General John Hoffman, will present awards to the winners of the New Jersey Bar Association's YouTube video contest for middle and high school students.

Reporters and photographers who want to attend the naturalization ceremony or the awards ceremony should call the Judiciary press office at 609-292-9580 to make arrangements.

Vicinages around the state have scheduled Law Day events throughout May. <u>The list of statewide Law Day activities</u> can be found at njcourts.com.

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Residents from the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) will attend the naturalization ceremony and awards contest. New Jersey law protects the confidentiality of juveniles placed with the JJC (N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60). Reporters and photographers cannot photograph or interview JJC participants.