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Camden Vicinage to Host Free Seminar

The Camden Vicinage Advisory Committee on Minority Concerns will host a free seminar, “Racial and Ethnic Identities in America: Myths, Facts and the Power of Illusion,” on Friday, Sept. 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Courtroom 63 at the Hall of Justice, 101 S. Fifth St., Camden.

The seminar, moderated by Khyati Y. Joshi, will provide an overview of the legal and social history of racial and ethnic identity in the United States by examining a series of landmark federal cases, including decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court on immigration, housing and public policy.

Joshi is a professor of education at Fairleigh Dickinson University, where she was awarded the 2014 FDU Distinguished Faculty Award for research and scholarship. She earned her doctorate in social justice education at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. She is a graduate of Emory University and pursued post-graduate studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

“The committee has done an outstanding job in bringing such a dynamic and sought after speaker to us all,” said Assignment Judge Deborah Silverman Katz, who invited Camden judges, law clerks, staff and other members of the court community to attend the presentation with her and Superior Court Judge Morris G. Smith, the committee chair.

The committee brings judges, court staff and community representatives together to examine issues of importance to racial/ethnic minorities and the community to gain fair and equitable access to court services and programs. In addition to gathering information about court operations, policies, and programs and advising local courts on related issues, committee members help implement the recommendations of the Supreme Court Committee on Minority Concerns, monitoring progress and making recommendations for improvements to the assignment judge.

The program has been approved by the New Jersey Supreme Court’s Board on Continuing Legal Education and attorney staff members who complete the session will receive CLE credit.

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