RICHARD J. HUGHES JUSTICE COMPLEX · P.O. BOX 037 · TRENTON, NJ 08625-0984

For further information: Samantha Iraca, Executive Director Mercer County Bar Association 609-585-6200 For immediate release: April 30, 2018

## **Mercer Vicinage Celebrates Law Day 2018**

The Mercer Vicinage, in partnership with the Mercer County Bar Association, will hold its annual Law Day celebration on Friday, May 4.

The national theme for Law Day is "Separation of Powers: Framework for Freedom."

The vicinage has invited Mercer County middle school students to the criminal courthouse in Trenton for a mock trial to learn about separation of powers and its application. The program is designed to give students a concrete example of how the executive, legislative and judicial branches interact within the courts. The experience will demonstrate not only how citizens can challenge executive and legislative decision-making that they deem unconstitutional, but also the mechanism by which such challenges are decided.

Assignment Judge Mary C. Jacobson and Superior Court Judge Kay Walcott-Henderson will facilitate the program with students serving as plaintiffs, witnesses and jurors.

During the program, the West Windsor Plainsboro-South High School debate team will be recognized as the 2017-2018 winners of the Colonial Valley Conference Debate League Championship.

In addition to the courthouse program, the vicinage will send five teams composed of judges, law clerks, assistant prosecutors and private attorneys to schools to replicate the courthouse program.

Established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1958, Law Day was designated as "a day of national dedication to the principles of government under law."