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

For immediate release: Dec. 5, 2019

Judiciary Introduces Interactive Juror Summons Process in Bergen and Passaic Counties

Prospective jurors in Bergen and Passaic counties can respond to jury duty summonses online and interact with the court in real time under a new system that began today.

The two counties join 14 others where the new system has been rolled out since the beginning of the year.

As part of the changes, a single postcard will replace the letter-sized paper summons mailed to prospective jurors advising them of the date and location of jury duty and providing instructions to complete an online qualification questionnaire.

Prospective jurors who do not complete online qualification within three weeks will receive a letter-sized questionnaire to be completed and mailed back to the local jury management office.

In addition to the new summons forms, a new juror portal will allow prospective jurors to ask questions or request deferrals or postponements online for quicker responses. The portal also will enhance email and text message communications between jurors and the jury management office. The new system reflects the Judiciary's commitment to best meet the needs of the public and engage with jurors in a clear and concise manner.

"The Judiciary continues to work to improve the jury experience," said Judge Glenn A. Grant, acting administrative director of the courts. "Modernizing communication with jurors is the latest step in our ongoing efforts to respect jurors' time and support positive interactions with the courts."

Atlantic County piloted the program on Jan. 18. Mercer County began using the summons system on July 30, followed by Cape May County on Aug. 22 and Burlington County on Aug. 29. Hunterdon, Somerset and Salem counties started using the system on Sept. 19 and Camden, Cumberland, Ocean and Warren counties moved to the system on Oct. 3. Gloucester, Morris and Union counties started using the system on Nov. 7.

Frequently asked questions about jury service in New Jersey can be found at njcourts.gov.