## NOTICE TO THE BAR

## SOMERSET COUNTY – ONGOING AFTERNOON CALENDARS FOR LANDLORD/TENANT MATTERS

As noted in Judge Grant's February 28, 2020 notice to the bar, the formal pilot program for extended court calendars for landlord/tenant hearings has concluded.

This notice announces that Somerset County will continue to offer afternoon calendars on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, from 3:30 p.m. to up to 6:30 p.m. Some cases will be randomly assigned to the afternoon calendars while parties assigned to morning sessions also may request to reschedule to the afternoon sessions.

The Somerset County Superior Court Special Civil Part currently schedules landlord/tenant matters on the first and third Friday of each month, starting at 9:00 a.m. These regular calendars will continue.

Somerset County will offer two additional calendars, on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, from 3:30 p.m. to up to 6:30 p.m. Some cases will be randomly assigned to the afternoon calendars. Either party may object to the late afternoon calendar assignment and request rescheduling to a regular daytime calendar. Objections must be submitted to <a href="mailbox@njcourts.gov">SomLT.mailbox@njcourts.gov</a>, on notice to the other party, at least three business days in advance of the scheduled hearing date and will be decided by the Supervising Special Civil Part judge.

In addition to random assignment of cases, tenants and landlords may request to be rescheduled from a daytime calendar to a late afternoon calendar. Requests must be on notice to the other party and submitted at least three business days in advance by email to <a href="mailto:SomLT.mailbox@njcourts.gov">SomLT.mailbox@njcourts.gov</a> or by contacting the Special Civil Part office at (908) 332-7700.

The summons issued to tenants will include an explanatory notice. Parties and attorneys in landlord/tenant cases may be asked to complete a questionnaire regarding their participation or non-participation in the late afternoon calendars.

Questions may be directed to Somerset County Assistant Civil Division Manager Reta Wahba at (908) 332-7700 or <a href="mailto:Reta.Wahba@njcourts.gov">Reta.Wahba@njcourts.gov</a>.

Hon. Yolanda Ciccone, Assignment Judge

Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren Vicinage

Dated: March 2, 2020