

LAWYERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES – March 3, 2026

Present: Alexandra Jacobs, Carlos M. Bollar, Charles M. Lizza, Danielle Corcione, David M. White, Dennis Gleason, Elizabeth Sher, Eric Abraham, Eric Moran, Glenn Troublefield, James R. Birchmeier, Jeffrey Greenbaum, Jennifer A. Hradil, Jenny Chung Quraishi, Joseph Braunreuther, Keith Miller, Kelly Crawford, Kerri E. Chewing, Kevin Marino, Lee Cortes, Melissa Rhoads, Michael Galpern, Peter C. Harvey, Philip Sellinger, Rebekah Conroy, Shoshanna Schiff, Steven M. Richman, Susan Smalley, Thomas R. Curtin, Victor Afanador, Vikas Khanna, William Cook

Chief Judge Bumb, Judge Quraishi, Judge O’Hearn, Judge Hammer, Judge Day, Judge Fais

The Lawyers Advisory Committee (“LAC”) met at the Park Chateau, where the meeting was convened by Chair Thomas R. Curtin, at 6:00 p.m., and the following occurred:

1. The Chair, Tom Curtin, welcomed attendees. Tom reminded all members not only to attend the meetings, but also to actively participate and join subcommittees.
2. A motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2025, meeting was made and seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.
3. Chief Judge Bumb welcomed new members to the committee. She provided an update on the status of the Magistrate Judge vacancies in Camden and Newark, noting that the backfill for Judge Donio, who is retiring at the end of June, has been selected and is undergoing a background check. She also noted the Board of Judges will soon interview for Judge Hammer’s backfill, as he is retiring at the end of August.

Chief Judge Bumb also announced Judge John Sherwood will be retiring this year. She further noted Judge Eamonn O’Hagan, who sits in Trenton, was sworn in on February 17, 2026, to fill the vacancy left by Judge Gambardella.

Chief Judge Bumb reminded all members of the upcoming Third Circuit Judicial Conference in Hershey from May 6–8.

Chief Judge Bumb informed the LAC the Court has experienced a significant increase in Immigration Habeas cases. She also noted the District of New Jersey remains number one in the nation for civil filings.

Chief Judge Bumb stated she anticipates a ruling shortly in the pending litigation regarding challenges to the U.S. Attorney structure of three individuals.

Chief Judge Bumb also encouraged members to watch the recently aired *60 Minutes* segment, “Under Siege,” about judicial security, featuring Judge Salas.

4. Rebekah Conroy reported on behalf of the AFBNJ and provided updates on the following upcoming events:
 - a. March 11, 2026 – Judicial Conference at The Grove in Cedar Grove. The event will include networking, CLE programs, and a reception.
 - b. March 31, 2026 – Federal Bench/Bar Symposium with the New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA) at the Law Center in New Brunswick.
 - c. April 16–17, 2026 – William H. Gindin Bankruptcy Bench/Bar Conference at the Hard Rock Hotel in Atlantic City.
 - d. Hatch-Waxman Program – Four separate lunchtime sessions will be held virtually on March 30, May 11, May 27, and June 15.
 - e. June 9, 2026 – William J. Brennan, Jr. Award Reception at the Park Chateau in East Brunswick.

5. Keith Miller reported on behalf of the Historical Society and provided updates on the following upcoming events:
 - a. April 30, 2026 - 100th Anniversary of Probation in the Ceremonial Courtroom in the Newark Courthouse.
 - b. 250th Anniversary of U.S.A. – A committee was created to develop programs and a celebration in honor of the country’s Semi-Quincentennial. Certain events will be coordinated with the Court.
 - c. 3rd Great Trials Program – Trenton will host the third installment of the Great Trials program with a date to be determined. A few more significant cases are needed and suggestions should be emailed to Keith;

Keith noted a reception is being sponsored at the 3rd Circuit Judicial Conference and invited all members to attend. He also noted Beth Sher has been working hard on updating the oral history videos on the Society website.

6. Old Business:
 - a. Michael Galpern reported on behalf of the Federal Civil Practice Committee. He discussed two initiatives his committee is researching:
 - i. Ways to reduce the heavy motion practice in the DNJ;
 - ii. Can pro bono Madden requirements be satisfied if serving as a federal arbitrator.

A discussion ensued over other possible helpful initiatives to streamline work in the District. Chief Judge Bumb asked all members to share ideas with Mike Galpern and his committee.

Mike Galpern also updated LAC members on the civics education program offered in conjunction with the Camden County Bar Foundation. He hopes similar programs will be offered in Newark and Trenton in the future.

- b. William Cook reported on behalf of the Model Civil Jury Charges Committee. He reported the model civil jury charges committee intends on reviewing jury charges from other circuits.

Research gathered from the patent bar was provided to a subcommittee looking at local patent civil jury charges.

Chief Judge Bumb announced the Court's Local Rules Patent Committee has been reestablished and anyone interested in joining should reach out to Judge Chesler.

- c. David White reported on behalf of the Local Rule 104.1(b) committee. Judge Padin recommended reviewing several provisions of the rule. A subcommittee of LAC members met and narrowed down the issues. They intend to provide a recommendation at the June LAC meeting.

- 7. The upcoming events were reviewed.

The next meeting will be on June 2, 2026, at 6:00pm.