

News Release



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Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court

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For immediate release: **July 28, 2021**

Statement of Chief Justice Stuart Rabner on Supreme Court Vacancy

“Earlier this year, Justice Jaynee LaVecchia announced that she would retire from the Supreme Court after twenty-one years of service at the end of the Court’s term. The Governor nominated a successor before the upcoming term, which starts on September 1, 2021.

Recent public statements have confirmed that confirmation hearings will not be held until after Election Day. By around that time, the Supreme Court will have heard oral argument in about forty percent of the cases for the 2021-22 term.

To best serve the public, the Court should have a full complement of Justices this fall to hear and decide cases and to address the heavy volume of petitions for certification, motions, disciplinary and character matters, and other issues that require timely resolution. Under the circumstances, I recently asked Justice LaVecchia if she would consider delaying her retirement for a few months. I am very grateful that she graciously agreed to do so and is willing to remain on the Court until no later than the end of this calendar year.”

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