



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

# New Jersey

WORK & IMPACT  
IN YOUR  
STATE



- In 2024, the NCJFCJ trained 36 judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals working to protect **New Jersey's** children, families, and victims in our communities.
- With funding support from the NoVo Foundation, the NCJFCJ provided training and technical assistance to the **New Jersey** multi-site court collaboration, including **Atlantic, Camden, Ocean, and Passaic Counties** to identify and promote promising practices in juvenile and family courts to address child sex trafficking.
- **New Jersey** judicial system professionals participated in the NCJFCJ's Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (CANI). The CANI brought together expert judicial faculty and other subject matter experts to engage participants through exemplary instruction, case scenarios, and other active learning strategies. Some of the core topics of CANI include: the leadership role of the judge in child abuse and neglect cases; a review of federal laws and policies that drive the child abuse and neglect process; the Indian Child Welfare Act; reasonable efforts in judicial decision making; judicial ethics; and emerging issues in child welfare.
- The **Newark** Child Abuse and Neglect Mentor Model Court is recognized for its efforts to improve outcomes for abused and neglected children, juvenile offenders, and their families.
- At the **New Jersey** Family Division Education Conference in **Gassaway**, approximately 75 attendees participated in a training session presented by the National Center for Juvenile Justice, titled "Youth and the Juvenile Justice System: Key Trends to Know."
- The state of **New Jersey** contributes juvenile court data to the National Juvenile Court Data Archive, funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). This national project of the NCJFCJ provides detailed and accurate information on the activities of the nation's juvenile courts to juvenile justice professionals, policy makers, researchers, and the public.
- The landscape of juvenile justice in **New Jersey** is detailed through the Juvenile Justice Geography, Policy, Practice and Statistics website (JJGPS.org), a project of the NCJFCJ's research division, the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ). JJGPS is an online resource that tracks juvenile justice reform in each state, allowing for comparisons within and across states.
- Judges and justice system professionals from **New Jersey** received specialized child welfare, domestic violence, and juvenile justice training on current and cutting-edge topics and research during the NCJFCJ's Annual Conference and National Conference on Juvenile Justice.
- The NCJFCJ has 154 Judicial and Associate Members in **New Jersey**.
- **Judge Rodney Thompson** of **Trenton** is a NCJFCJ Board Director. **Judge Carmen A. Ferrante (Ret.)** of **Totowa** and **Judge David B. Katz** of **Newark** are Past Presidents of the NCJFCJ.

## National Impact

In 2024, the NCJFCJ's work impacted approximately **4 million** families across the nation. Our publications amassed over **94,000** views, the team fulfilled over **150** requests for technical assistance, and trained over **15,000** judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family-court related professionals across the nation.

- **Court Leadership & Education**  
Educate judges, court professionals, and community members about leadership skills and best practices to improve the justice system
- **Domestic Child Sex Trafficking**  
Improving outcomes for vulnerable and victimized children through judicial education and action
- **National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence**  
Enhancing judicial skills to promote victim safety and batterer accountability
- **Juvenile Justice GPS**  
Providing juvenile justice policy, practice, and statistics by state
- **Trauma-Informed Courts & the Adolescent Brain**  
Promoting trauma-responsive courts and practices informed by science
- **Child Abuse & Neglect Institute**  
Improving outcomes for abused and neglected children through dependency court best practices
- **Military-Connected Families**  
Enhancing judicial skills to best serve military-connected families
- **Tribal Courts & ICWA**  
Promoting collaboration between tribal and state courts
- **Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts**  
Enhancing effectiveness in addressing youth substance abuse
- **Animal Cruelty**  
Understanding the link between animal abuse and other forms of violence
- **Implementation Sites & Project ONE**  
Approaching families holistically and improving outcomes for children in care
- **Self-Care & Wellness**  
Promoting judicial self-care and wellness for centering oneself for leadership

**Contact Information:**  
Joey Orduña Hastings, CEO  
jhastings@ncjfcj.org

P.O. Box 8970  
Reno, NV 89507  
(775) 507-4866

**NCJFCJ.org**

