



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

Effective Appellate Advocacy

**February 1, 2023
11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.**

**Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex
Advocacy Institute Conference Center
Fourth Floor, West Wing
25 Market Street, Trenton, New Jersey***

***Note: This program will also be simulcast as a webinar.**

Program Summary

This course will offer insight on how to present an effective appeal, including researching New Jersey legislative history. The instructors will address commonly asked questions regarding brief writing and oral argument before the Appellate Division and New Jersey Supreme Court.

Eligibility

Registration for this program is limited to deputy and assistant attorneys general in the Division of Law and the Division of Criminal Justice.

Faculty

Peter G. Verniero is Chair of the Sills Cummis & Gross Corporate Investigations and Integrity and Appellate Practice Groups. Mr. Verniero's practice includes advising entities in matters pending before the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of N.J. and the U.S. Department of Justice, conducting internal investigations for large companies, and advising businesses on electronic discovery policies.

Prior to joining Sills Cummis, Mr. Veniero was youngest member of the New Jersey Supreme Court in modern history. As an associate justice of the State Supreme Court, Mr. Verniero authored and signed 124 judicial opinions touching on a wide array of civil and criminal areas, including employment, corporate, and constitutional law. His opinions have been cited by courts all over the country, including the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, the Court of Appeals for the State of California, the Supreme Court of Minnesota.

Prior to his judicial service, Mr. Verniero served as the 51st Attorney General of New Jersey, as well as Chief of Staff and Chief Counsel to Governor Christine Todd Whitman. He has argued cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and the New Jersey Supreme Court. Mr. Verniero annotates and provides commentary to the *Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey*, a widely used reference guide for the legal profession published by Gann Law Books.

Mr. Verniero began his career as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Robert L. Clifford of the New Jersey Supreme Court. He was also an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the County College of Morris, where he taught business law. He earned a B.A. from Drew University and a J.D. from Duke University.

Michael S. Carucci is a Member of the Sills Cummis & Gross Litigation, Corporate Investigations and Integrity, and Appellate Practice Groups. He handles complex business litigation and regulatory enforcement actions, conducts internal investigations of large private, non-profit, and public organizations, and advocates for clients on appeal. He has successfully litigated a variety of cases both at the trial court level, from the pleading stage to trial, and on appeal, including before the New Jersey Supreme Court.

Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Carucci served as Senior Counsel for the Office of the Governor of New Jersey. For over three years, he advised the Governor on legal, legislative, and regulatory issues, focusing on prospective legislation and administrative rulemaking. He also served as the Governor's liaison to the State Senate and represented the Governor on various issues involving legislators, Cabinet members, senior departmental staff, government affairs professionals, and stakeholders.

Mr. Carucci currently serves as a member of the New Jersey School Ethics Commission, which reviews, investigates, and determines complaints against public officials for violations of the School Ethics Act, issues advisory opinions, and enforces disclosure and training requirements across the State. Mr. Carucci earned a B.A. from New York University and a J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law.

CLE Credit

NJ CLE Credit: This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 1.0 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

Registration

Attorneys who are eligible to attend this program will receive registration instructions from the AGAI.

Agenda

11:00 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.	Commencing an Appeal in the Appellate Division This section explores the mechanics of filing in the Appellate Division and the best way to avoid deficiency letters.
11:05 am – 11:10 am	Commencing an Appeal in the New Jersey Supreme Court This section explains the differences between appeals as of right and petitions for certification.
11:10 am – 11:15 am	New Jersey Legislative History- Bill File in the State Library

11:15 am – 11:20 am	New Jersey Legislative History- Judicial Examples The following cases will be discussed: 1) DiProspero v. Penn, 183 N.J. 477 (2005) 2) State v. Sisler, 177 N.J. 199 (2003) 3) In re Adoption of Child by W.P., 163 N.J. 158 (2000)
11:20 am – 11:30 am	Brief Writing This section will explore the fundamentals of effective appellate brief writing.
11:30 am – 11:40 am	Oral Argument This section explains how to persuasively argue an appeal.
11:40 am – 11:50 am	Questions Concluding Remarks