



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

**First and Foremost:
The History of the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination**

**January 9, 2024
1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.**

WEBINAR

Program Summary

With the enactment of the Law Against Discrimination in 1945, New Jersey became the first state in the nation since Reconstruction to adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination statute. Since that time, New Jersey has remained at the forefront of ensuring of its citizens' civil rights by amending the LAD numerous times, adding further protections to keep pace with evolving societal changes. In describing the impact of the LAD, the New Jersey Supreme Court said, "[o]ne searches in vain to find another New Jersey enactment having an equivalently powerful statement of purpose." This presentation will outline the history of the LAD's expansion with a focus on the statute's current coverage.

Eligibility

This program is open to attorneys in the Department of Law and Public Safety and county prosecutors' offices.

Faculty

DAG James Michael is the Section Chief of the Civil Rights Section of the Division of Law, where he provides counsel to the Division on Civil Rights and supervises the prosecution of discrimination complaints related to employment, public accommodations and housing on behalf of the Division of Civil Rights. DAG Michael has also worked on a series of initiatives aimed at improving access for people with disabilities in places of public accommodation, including schools, shopping malls, hospitals, and polling places. He previously worked in the former Affirmative Litigation Section, where he focused on a range of issues including mortgage fraud, pharmaceutical marketing and abusive debt collection practices. Prior to joining the Division of Law, DAG Michael served as a Deputy Attorney General and Governor's Fellow with the Division of Gaming Enforcement. He holds an undergraduate degree from Franklin and Marshall College, a Master's Degree in Public Policy from the Eagleton Institute of Politics of Rutgers University

and a J.D. from Rutgers Law School – Camden.

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 1.5 hours of Alternative Verifiable Learning Format (AVF) total CLE credit. Of these, 1.5 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism in the Diversity, Inclusion and Elimination of Bias category.

Registration

Those who are eligible to apply should use the Zoom Webinar registration link in the Program Announcement email. Students who are registered will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the program.

Students must download Zoom before the webinar in order for the AGAI to record polling responses that are required for attendance verification and CLE credit.

The AGAI will be unable to verify attendance or grant CLE credit to students who have not downloaded Zoom before the webinar.