



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, the legal profession in the State of New Jersey finds its roots in the first court established in 1661, the emergence of the legal profession in 1702, and the formal organization of the Bar Association in 1899; and

WHEREAS, the mosaic of the law is embellished by the judges, lawyers, and legal personnel who assist in designing the underpinning of this Nation's and State's legal fabric and who continue to frame rigorous codes of ethics and discipline to guide them in their tasks; and

WHEREAS, in order to secure their country, the servicepersons deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq have experienced challenges and situations resulting from their deployment that have required legal assistance in the areas of debtor/creditor law, employment law, family law, landlord-tenant law, and medical/physical evaluation board appeals; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Bar Association in October 2006, upon the recommendation of its Military Law and Veteran Affairs Committee, recognized this need by establishing a pro bono Military Legal Assistance Program (MLAP) available for men and women who have served in the National Guard in either Afghanistan or Iraq since 2001, are New Jersey residents, and require legal assistance as a result of that service; and

WHEREAS, these MLAP attorney volunteers have helped more than 40 servicepersons with various legal issues during the past eighteen months by volunteering their time, effort and legal resources in support of servicepersons; and

WHEREAS, on April 25, 2009, the NJSBA Military Law and Veterans Affairs Section will join with the Institute of Continuing Legal Education to host the Military Law Symposium, a free event for lawyers and servicepersons to attend to learn more about the legal issues of concern for military personnel;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JON S. CORZINE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby recognize and commend

**THE NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION,  
THE NJSBA MILITARY LAW AND VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE,  
AND THE NJSBA MILITARY LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ATTORNEY  
VOLUNTEERS**

for their foresight, service and dedication to providing legal representation to the men and women serving and securing our nation's interests in Afghanistan or Iraq.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-fifth day of April in the year two thousand nine, the two hundred thirty-third year of the Independence of the United States.

GOVERNOR



BY THE GOVERNOR:

NINA MITCHELL WELLS  
SECRETARY OF STATE