NEWS RELEASE

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LATEST LEGAL SERVICES NEWSLETTER SPELLS OUT OPTIONS AND PROCEDURES CONFRONTING TENANTS ABOUT TO BE EVICTED

EDISON— Details for low and moderate-income New Jerseyans on what tenants need to know — including their options — after a judge has approved their eviction are the focus of the latest newsletter of Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ).

The bilingual publication, "Looking Out For Your Legal Rights," is accessible at www.lsnjlaw.org by clicking on the "publications" tab. The newsletter also will be available at all Legal Services offices in New Jersey.

The newsletter notes that even after a judge has approved the eviction, the landlord still must take a variety of steps to have the tenant actually removed from the premises. Specifically, after the court ruling landlords must wait three days, excluding holidays and weekends, before the actual warrant for removal can be served. During that three-day period the tenant can seek further delay or even try again to have the eviction decision vacated.

Another topic in the LSNJ newsletter deals with the rights of workers regarding overtime pay and other aspects of alleged wage claim abuses. It is noted there are situations when even salaried employees may be entitled to time-and-a-half overtime pay after 40 hours of work. Further employers cannot get around wage laws simply by labeling an employee an independent contractor.

The newsletter further advises drivers about their right when stopped by police for a motor vehicle violation. In such situations the police officer cannot ask for agreement to search the vehicle or the occupants unless the officer has what legally is known as a "reasonable and articulable suspicion" of criminal activity.

Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ) heads the state's Legal Services system, a network of five independent non-profit corporations and is beginning its 50th year of providing free essential legal aid in civil matters to low-income people through offices in all 21 counties. Since its inception, LSNJ has provided representation in 2.4 million cases.

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