



News from the...
Board of Commissioners

PLEASE SHARE WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS!



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Paul M. Drake
Commissioner



Douglas M. Singleterry
Commissioner

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From the Desk of Commissioner Director Shanel Y. Robinson

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Introducing Somerset County's Newest Elected Officials:



SURROGATE BERNICE "TINA" JALLOH

Surrogate Tina Jalloh of Franklin is a partner in the law firm of Jalloh and Jalloh where she has extensive experience in family law, wills and estate planning, and adoptions. She has also volunteered for Legal Services of New Jersey representing clients pro bono primarily in Surrogate and Family Courts. Prior to her career as an attorney, Mrs. Jalloh was a health care executive managing hospital laboratories as well as employee training and



COMMISSIONER PAUL DRAKE

Commissioner Drake is a lifelong resident of Somerset County who lives in Hillsborough with his wife and two children. Commissioner Drake previously served on the Somerset County Parks Commission, the Hillsborough Township Committee, and the Hillsborough Township Planning Board. He works as a Public Affairs manager with PSE&G and teaches urban planning at Rutgers University.



COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS SINGLETERRY

Commissioner Douglas Singleterry lives in North Plainfield with his wife and son where he served four terms on the Borough Council including tenures as President and Vice President. Professionally, Commissioner Singleterry is an attorney who has been a recipient of the Service to the Community Award presented by the NJ State Bar Young Lawyers Division. He is a published author, including a book on commercial

development.

transaction law and a peer-reviewed article on the international law of genocide.



[County Commissioners Hold Annual Reorganization Meeting](#)

Swearing in and reorganization meeting were held virtually.

WHO WILL RECEIVE THE FIRST COVID-19 VACCINATIONS?

An COVID-19 vaccine does not differ from the federal government during Phase 1. Critical populations as defined by the CDC will be the first groups offered the vaccine. These populations include those who may come in direct contact with the virus. Those at risk of more serious illness or death, or those in underserved populations that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. These critical populations include:

GROUP 1A Continuity Health Care Providers	GROUP 1B Essential Employees	GROUP 1C High-Risk General Population
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitals • Long-Term Care Facilities • Home Care Services • Urgent Care and Clinics • Medical Centers • Physical Therapy • Pharmacy • Pharmacies • Public Health Departments • Group Homes • Facilities associated with blood transfusion and plasma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Response • First Responders • Food and Agriculture • Transportation • Education (Classroom) • Energy • Utility Locations • Law Enforcement • Government Agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term Care and Group Home Residents • Residents of Congregate Settings • The Homeless • The Incarcerated • The Homeless and Incarcerated • Correctional Supervising Authority • Affiliated to COVID-19 • College • Universities • Child or Adult Care Services • Prisons and Detention • The Homeless or Substandard

Once the vaccine becomes more widely available, doses will be distributed to the general population with a priority registration. Every Somerset County resident who wishes to be vaccinated against COVID-19 will be able to do so by Labor Day, with need being an important factor.

For more information on the Somerset County COVID-19 Vaccine Program, visit: <https://nj.gov/COVID-19>

[COVID VACCINATION ROLL OUT](#)

Vaccinations are being rolled out in phases based on critical populations as defined by the CDC. Residents interested in receiving a vaccine **must register** at <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine>. You will be **notified** when you are **eligible** to attend a vaccination clinic. Pre-registration **does NOT qualify as an appointment**. However, residents who register will receive an appointment based on priority group and eligibility.

[Who will receive the first COVID-19 vaccinations? \(Defined populations - English\)](#)

[Who will receive the first COVID-19 vaccinations? \(Defined populations - Spanish\)](#)

[General information about COVID-19 Vaccination Program \(English\)](#)

[General information about COVID-19 Vaccination Program \(Spanish\)](#)



[COVID Testing Continues at RVCC on Jan. 13, 20 & 27](#)

Testing continues on Wednesdays in January.



[Transportation Runs Modified Schedule on Martin Luther King Day](#)

Schedules will be adjusted on Jan. 18.

[E-Waste and First Saturday Drop-Offs - Jan. 9](#)

Donations will be collected and delivered to local food banks.



[Somerset County Hope and Healing Program](#)

Your mental health is important. If the coronavirus is causing you to feel anxious or overwhelmed, contact Somerset County Hope and Healing services at 908-231-6414. The program is available at no cost for people who live or work in Somerset County. This Crisis Counseling Program is offered by Richard Hall Community Mental Health Center in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Human Services' Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services. It is funded through FEMA/SAMHSA.



Rental Relief Funding Still Available for Those Impacted by COVID

If you are having difficulty making your rental payments due to job loss or other issues related to COVID-19, Somerset County has funding available that can help.



“Grab & Go” Curbside Lunch Program

Eligible participants age 60 or older can order and pick up boxed lunches and frozen meals.



Virtual Senior Wellness Center Programs Available for January

Senior centers are temporarily closed until Jan. 31



County Commissioners Meetings Livestreamed

Catch the Board of Freeholders' twice-monthly work sessions and regular meetings as they happen by visiting the livestreaming page on the county website. You can also access archived meetings.



Somerset County Library System

There's lots to see and do now that the Somerset County Library System is open. <https://sclsnj.org/>



Somerset County Park Commission

Somerset County parks are open for residents during the COVID, with social distancing, of course. Enjoy the beautiful weather during this first weekend of fall with expected temperatures in the 80s!

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SOMERSET COUNTY MISSION STATEMENT:

The County of Somerset is committed to excellence and innovation in public service, promoting the well-being of all residents and communities by providing effective, efficient and responsive leadership.

