

NJAC COUNTY BIZ

An Educational and Informative Newsletter for Counties and Businesses

New Jersey Association of Counties

ISSUE 165 - AUGUST 2025

Can AI Make Government Services *More* Human?

By Megan Olson, Director of Marketing, Polimorphic

When most people think of AI, they think cold, machine, robotic. All the things you don't want government services to be.

In government, it's easy to imagine the worst: a future where every website is a wall of robotic text, every resident is greeted by a monotone chatbot, and real human connection disappears.

But what if we've got it backwards?

What if AI doesn't replace the human element in government, but amplifies it? What if AI is the tool that finally lets public servants spend more time with the people who need them most?

Welcome to the paradox: the best way to make government more human might just be to start using more AI.

Human-First Services at Scale

Governments exist to serve *people*. But when one staffer is juggling phone calls, emails, walk-ins, and policy updates, that service often comes with long wait times, missed calls, and burnout.

AI helps governments serve their communities at scale, without sacrificing the human touch.

A well-trained AI assistant can handle hundreds of questions a day, from "When is trash pickup?" to "How do I get a building permit?"; accurately, instantly, and 24/7. That means human staff are freed up to handle the complex, emotional, human needs: the senior who's struggling with housing paperwork, the resident recovering from a disaster, or the business owner with a nuanced zoning question.

By giving staff breathing room, AI makes room for empathy.

Every Language, Every Resident

Traditional service models often unintentionally exclude non-English speakers. Translation services are expensive, slow, and not always available on every channel.

AI is changing that dramatically.

AI-powered tools now offer multilingual support across websites, chatbots, and voice systems. That means a Bengali-speaking resident can ask a question about utility bills and get an accurate response in Bengali, without waiting days for a human translator.

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Can AI Make Government Services *More* Human? (continued)

This isn't just about convenience. It's about equity. AI makes it possible for local governments to meet residents where they are, in the language they speak, with dignity and speed.

Human Support, When It Matters Most

Let's be clear: some situations do need a human.

AI isn't here to replace face-to-face service. It's here to make sure that when someone needs white-glove help, that help is available because staff aren't stuck answering the same question 400 times a week.

Imagine a disaster response scenario: a resident just lost their home. In that moment, they need empathy, options, and maybe even a hug, not a link to a form. With AI handling routine requests, the agency's communication and casework teams are more available to focus on these critical, high-touch cases.

AI clears the clutter. Humans take the spotlight.

Additional Ways AI Supports More Human Government Services

1. Consistency Without Coldness

One of the quiet frustrations of government service is inconsistency. Residents get different answers depending on who they talk to or when. AI tools help standardize answers across departments and channels, ensuring residents get consistent, accurate information every time.

That consistency builds trust. And with trust, human interactions become more productive and less combative.

2. Faster Follow-Up and Better Memory

Humans sometimes forget. AI always remembers.

Modern AI tools can track resident interactions across time, saving details from past questions, following up on requests, and even surfacing trends for staff. That kind of memory isn't just efficient, it's personal. It helps residents feel seen and heard, even in large bureaucracies.

It's the digital version of "I remember you from last time."

3. Listening at Scale

What do residents ask about most? Which neighborhoods are struggling to navigate services? AI doesn't just answer questions—it listens.

By analyzing incoming requests and chatbot interactions, cities can spot patterns: confusing web pages, frequent misunderstandings, rising concerns. That feedback loop helps governments proactively improve services, update communications, and even shape policy.

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Can AI Make Government Services *More* Human? (continued)

It's like having an open-door office—but for the whole community.

A New Kind of Government Service

The future of government isn't AI versus humans. It's AI for humans.

It's a community where everyone gets an answer quickly, clearly, and in their language. It's a government where staff aren't burned out from backlogs, but energized by meaningful work. It's a service model that feels personal, even at scale.

Because in the end, what makes government human isn't just the staff behind the desk, it's the care we bring to the people we serve. AI just gives us more chances to show it.

[To learn more about bringing AI to your agency, request a demo here.](#)

The logo for Polimorphic, featuring the word "polimorphic" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are lowercase. There are two horizontal bars above the letters: a blue bar above the 'p' and 'o', and a red bar below the 'l' and 'i'. The 'm' is positioned between these two bars.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Learn about the benefits of being a part of NJAC and how you can join.

Contact Loren Wizman, Business Development Director at
(609) 394-3467 or loren@njac.org

[Click here for an application](#)

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



With extensive expertise in delivering compassionate, comprehensive correctional healthcare, MEDIKO ensures exceptional value for every tax dollar invested. Our success is built on key strengths that position us as the ideal choice for your facility's healthcare needs.

- **Experienced Adult and Juvenile Correctional Healthcare.** We capitalize on over 235 collective years of leader expertise in managing adult and juvenile healthcare services within correctional facilities. Our comprehensive approach ensures that we address the medical, mental health, and dental care needs of incarcerated individuals, whether they be adults or juveniles.
- **Comprehensive and Proven MAT/MOUD Programs.** Our MAT/MOUD program integrates medical, counseling, and behavioral therapies to offer a holistic approach to recovery, helping to reduce the risk of relapses and promote long-term health and well-being.
- **Comprehensive Behavioral Health Programs.** Our staff are expertly trained to promptly identify and respond to signs of mental illness and suicidal ideation, implementing protocols that prioritize patient safety and mental health.
- **Customized, Adequate Staffing.** We will create a tailored staffing matrix and utilize diverse staffing solutions to ensure your facility maintains contractually promised staffing.
- **No Negative Headlines.** This principle applies to both MEDIKO and our client partners. By establishing programs that deliver the expected level of care, we can effectively prevent adverse events. Consequently, there will not be any negative news coverage regarding healthcare within the facility.
- **Proven Legal Record.** With 28 years of service and no legal judgments from government partners, MEDIKO stands out for our ethical and effective healthcare delivery.
- **Transparent, Authentic Partnerships.** Our commitment to transparency and authenticity ensures open communication, regular updates, and a strong, collaborative relationship with our partners.

MEDIKO's inmate-patient healthcare program is designed to adapt to the evolving needs of facilities and the broader correctional healthcare landscape.

We look forward to the opportunity to partner with you and support the well-being of your population. For additional information please contact Jennifer Sheptock, Sr. Director Partnership Development via email at jsheptock@mediko.com.

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS *(continued)*

Metropolitan Commercial Bank®



Metropolitan Commercial Bank (MCB), headquartered in New York City, has helped our clients grow their businesses and generate wealth since 1999.

Our philosophy is solutions-oriented and ambition-driven, empowering our team to deliver innovative offerings and strategic advice that supports your continued success. With specialized expertise in a range of dynamic industries and markets, MCB shares the same entrepreneurial spirit as those it serves and is committed to creating value for our clients and the communities we belong to.

Acting as a trusted financial partner to our clients' businesses, our teams execute with the highest levels of precision and excellence, and are committed to guiding your success to new heights.

For additional information and to learn more please contact Deeney Teets, First Vice President/Sr. Relationship Manager via email at dteets@mcbankny.com.

Morris County Park Commission

August 14 – Summer Sip at Sunset
7:30-9 PM
Cooper Mill
Chester Township

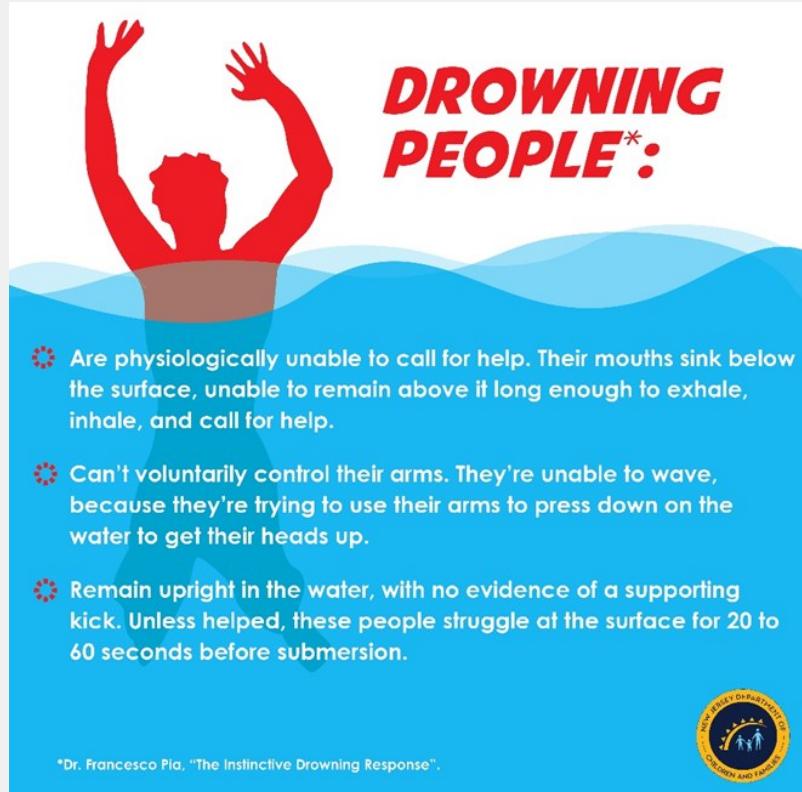
Adults Only. BYOB and enjoy a tour of the historic water-powered grist mill, sample homemade bread and churned butter, play historic lawn games, and savor a summer sunset. Registration required. \$20 per person.

August 16 – Pig-a-Palooza
7:30-10:30 PM
Fosterfields Living Historical Farm
Morris Township

Bring the family to the farm for an outdoor screening of Charlotte's Web! Meet the piglets, enjoy wagon rides around the farm and free popcorn. Pre-register. \$10 per person.

Find information and register at www.morrisparks.net/calendar

Summer should be a fun season for children and families. One important factor is to ensure that children are **ALWAYS** supervised around bodies of water, especially when in crowded spaces. Drowning isn't loud or splashy; it often goes undetected. Here are some quick references to share with constituents in newsletters and on social media: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/news/publications/dcf-materials/safety.html>.



DROWNING PEOPLE*:

- Are physiologically unable to call for help. Their mouths sink below the surface, unable to remain above it long enough to exhale, inhale, and call for help.
- Can't voluntarily control their arms. They're unable to wave, because they're trying to use their arms to press down on the water to get their heads up.
- Remain upright in the water, with no evidence of a supporting kick. Unless helped, these people struggle at the surface for 20 to 60 seconds before submersion.

*Dr. Francesco Pia, "The Instinctive Drowning Response".



WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF DROWNING?

- Head low in water, mouth at water level.
- Head tilted back, mouth open.
- Eyes glassy and empty, unable to focus.
- Eyes closed.
- Hair over eyes.
- Not using legs—vertical alignment.
- Hyperventilating or gasping.
- Swimming in a particular direction and going nowhere.
- Trying to roll over on their back.
- Ladder climbing movements.

Discover What's New In The NJSTART Marketplace

By Tania Dinis, Marketing Communications Manager, SOVRA

Purchasing just got a whole lot easier for New Jersey's public agencies. The **NJSTART Marketplace**—the state's official procurement platform—has been upgraded with new tools and features that make it faster, smarter, and more convenient to buy the goods and services your agency needs.

Whether you're outfitting a department, sourcing technology, or restocking supplies, the enhanced NJSTART Marketplace is designed to support your workflow from start to finish.

What's New?

Direct Vendor Communication

Have questions about a product or service? Now you can message vendors directly through the platform to get timely answers, quotes, or support.

Contracted Vendor Punchouts

Browse and shop from contracted vendor catalogs right inside the Marketplace—seamlessly and securely.

Effortless Cart Sharing

Speed up internal approvals and streamline your purchasing process with the new cart sharing functionality.

Intuitive User Interface

An updated look and feel makes browsing more efficient, so you can find what you need with fewer clicks.

Smart Filtering & Keyword Search

Quickly search by contract category, vendor, or item using a single, powerful search field. It's never been easier to locate contracts that meet your needs.

Statewide Purchasing Power

Access **competitive pricing** through **reliable, vetted contracts** that meet all state procurement laws—so you can buy with confidence.

A Wide Selection at Your Fingertips

The NJSTART Marketplace offers an expansive range of products and services—all in one centralized platform.

Whether you're a seasoned procurement professional or just starting to use NJSTART, these enhancements are built to simplify your purchasing journey and help you make informed, compliant decisions.

See It in Action

NJSTART holds quarterly webinars where we provide helpful information and tips and tricks on how to use NJSTART. If you are interested in signing up for these webinars, are having a personal training session for yourself or your team, please contact us at coop-njstart@mdfcommerce.com.

For more information, visit njstart.info.



Atlantic City Electric Launches \$4 Million Customer Relief Fund To Help Reduce Burden Of Higher Energy Costs - *Limited*

and moderate-income Atlantic City Electric Customers could qualify for up to \$300 from one-time energy relief grant; additional enhanced support measures are available for the summer months

By Brian Ahrens, Atlantic City Electric Communication

Atlantic City Electric and nonprofit partner **SHARES** joined to launch the Atlantic City Electric Customer Relief Fund, which will provide relief for limited- and moderate-income Atlantic City Electric customers during an anticipated increase in energy bills in the coming months. The fund was made possible through a one-time \$4 million donation by Exelon,

Atlantic City Electric's parent company, to SHARES which will administer the fund. Beginning In early July, Atlantic City Electric Customers will be able to apply for assistance through SHARES, which has extensive experience helping families in the South Jersey area.

"Atlantic City Electric has deep community roots, and we're committed to standing by our customers and helping them stay connected to the essential energy service we provide." said Tyler Anthony, President and CEO of Atlantic City Electric's parent company, Pepco Holdings. "The Customer Relief Fund offers immediate assistance with higher energy bills as we continue to work on long-term solutions with state and local officials."

"No one in South Jersey should have to choose between dignity and basic necessities like keeping the lights on," said Cheryl Stowell, CEO of SHARES. "SHARES is proud to continue our work with Atlantic City Electric to launch this Customer Relief Fund, providing vital financial support to our communities who are struggling with higher energy costs."

How the Customer Relief Fund Works

Atlantic City Electric and SHARES are working closely to provide limited and moderate-income residents with meaningful relief in the coming months, as customers will likely see another increase in energy costs driven by increasing energy supply costs as demand rises and supply is not there to meet it.

The fund is open to active, limited income customers who are income qualified for federal and state energy assistance programs and have at least \$250 in arrearages over the past 60 plus days. Moderate income customers who meet certain income eligibility requirements may also be eligible for support. Approved grants will be credited to the customer's Atlantic City Electric account.

To apply or learn more, customers should visit atlanticcityelectric.com/Relief or call 800-642-3780.

Additional Enhanced Support Measures Available During the Summer Months

The Atlantic City Electric Customer Relief Fund is a one-time program in addition to Atlantic City Electric's enhanced support measures available during the summer months, including:

- Suspending service disconnections for nonpayment for eligible customer from July through September
- Waiving fees for disconnected customers who are seeking to restore service from July through September
- Offering longer repayment terms for residential customers, up to 24 months

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Atlantic City Electric Launches \$4 Million Customer Relief Fund To Help Reduce Burden Of Higher Energy Costs (continued)

Beyond these measures, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) recently approved a plan to provide customers with a \$30 deferred credit on their bills during July and August. These costs will be recovered over a six-month period without interest beginning in September, helping to mitigate increases caused by high usage during the summer months.

A New Source for Relief

The Customer Relief Fund and these enhanced support measures are in addition to Atlantic City Electric's existing efforts to make energy affordable and to help customers manage their bills. Customers can visit atlanticcityelectric.com/BillSupport for more ways to manage their bill, use energy more efficiently or access energy assistance, including:

- Atlantic City Electric's self-service Assistance Finder, which provides simple and personalized recommendations.
- Payment arrangements, due-date extensions and other programs like Budget Billing to help smooth the impacts of seasonal rate changes.
- A suite of energy efficiency programs and saving tips to help customers save energy and money at their home or business.
- Financial assistance through federal and state programs.



NEW JERSEY COUNTY JAIL WARDENS ASSOCIATION

26TH ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

Tuesday, October 7 - Thursday, October 9, 2025

Tropicana Atlantic City—BOARDWALK RESORT CASINO

To LEARN MORE CLICK [HERE](#)

New Jersey County Planners Association George Ververides Honorary Scholarship Application—DUE September 30, 2025

By New Jersey County Planners Association

Statement of History and Purpose

The NJ County Planners Association was founded on June 13, 1956, to allow county planners a forum to meet regularly to discuss matters of mutual concern. Association members include full-time professionals of NJ county planning agencies, with various partner agencies and organizations invited to attend and participate in meetings. Since its inception, the Association has strived to promote regional planning efforts, activities and programs, and to advance sound planning principles to help guide New Jersey into the future.

In 2021, the Association established this scholarship to honor one of its most active and celebrated members, George Ververides. George worked tirelessly for the Middlesex County Office of Planning for 59 years, beginning in 1961. George attained a bachelor's degree in Geography from Rutgers University and a master's degree in Regional Planning from Cornell University. He is a Professional Planner in the State of NJ, member of the American Planning Association, the American Institute of Certified Planners, and the Association of American Geographers. During his tenure at Middlesex County he also served on many regional boards and commissions and was at one time an adjunct professor at Rutgers University.

At the end of 2020, George retired from his position as Director of the Middlesex County Office of Planning, a title he held for 34 years. George had a tremendous impact on regional planning throughout his tenure and remained an active member of the Association until his retirement. To honor George's contributions and the indelible impression he has made on so many, the Association created this scholarship to assist future Professional Planners in pursuing their ambitions to advance the field of professional planning.

The Association is offering scholarships to either undergraduate students in their third and fourth years or those pursuing an advanced degree in planning-related studies.

Scholarship funding for the current year totals \$2,000.00. The number of scholarships awarded, and the amount of monies awarded to each recipient, will be based on the number of selected applications, which will be considered by the designated Scholarship Committee. Funding will be awarded in October of 2025, for the 2026 Spring Semester.

Eligibility/Application Process/Deadline

This scholarship is open to New Jersey residents entering their third or fourth year of undergraduate study or those pursuing an advanced degree at a New Jersey institution of higher learning, with a major in City/Urban, Community and Regional Planning, or a planning-related field with a plan to pursue professional planning as a career. Application forms are to be typed or answered in ink in legible handwriting. All information is for the confidential use of the Scholarship Committee and is subject to verification from other sources.

If you have any questions or inquiries about the application process, please email njcpascholarship@gmail.com with a CC to Francesca Giarratana, Chair of the Education Committee, fgiarratana@hcnj.us and Olivia Pease, opease@hcnj.us.

**** All applications must be received by the close of business, Tuesday, September 30, 2025 ****

Please visit <https://www.njcountyplanners.org/njcpa-scholarship.html>.

Thomas Edison State University (TESU) and the Office of Strategic Partnerships remain sincerely grateful for your ongoing commitment to our partnership. We look forward to another successful and rewarding year ahead.

This letter is to inform you of the updated tuition rates for the 2025–2026 academic year at Thomas Edison State University. In accordance with the terms outlined in our Memorandum of Understanding, these new rates will take effect beginning with the August 2025 term.

Your updated corporate tuition rates are as follows:

- **Application Fee:** \$50
- **Undergraduate Tuition (per credit):** \$418
- **Graduate Tuition (per credit):** \$660.25
- **MBA Tuition (per credit):** \$705.85
- **DBA Tuition (per credit):** \$912
- **EdD Tuition (per credit):** \$832.20

We remain dedicated to supporting your employees in achieving their academic and professional goals. Should you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Kelli Parlante-Givas

Kelli Parlante-Givas

Sr. Director-Office of Strategic Partnerships

Thomas Edison State University



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Study With The Leader In Online Education

Thomas Edison State University

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR NEW JERSEY PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES



LIVE WEBINAR
Tuesday, August 5, 2025
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Registration: Click [HERE!](#)

(bit.ly/TESUAUG25)

This informative meeting will cover how to:

- Fund your education
- Find time to finish your degree
- Receive college credit for prior course work and professional experiences

Come with your questions—we will have a live Q&A!

Can't make the webinar? Feel free to [schedule a 15 min. appointment](#) for more information!

SHARE THE NEWS!

Let us know what educational or informational articles you would like published in the NJAC COUNTY BIZ

Contact Loren Wizman, Director of Business Development
(609) 394-3467
or
loren@njac.org

Thank You for Attending**Our****Annual InterNETworking Event!!!**

MRA International would like to extend our greatest appreciation to everyone who joined us for our annual 3-Day InterNETworking event this July! Your presence and participation helped make this year's gathering a tremendous success.

We were thrilled to welcome an outstanding number of attendees, including industry leaders, IT professionals, and partners from across the region. Each year, this event continues to evolve and expand, and it's thanks to your support and engagement.

As we reflect on this year's highlights, we're already looking ahead to what next year will bring. Thank you once again for being a part of our journey!

Keep An Eye Out for These Upcoming Events!**October 20th – 23rd, NJSBA Workshop at The Atlantic City Convention Center, New Jersey**

- Booth #515

November 18th – 20th, NJ League of Municipalities 110th Annual Conference at The Atlantic City Convention Center, New Jersey

- Booth #1416

MRA International is a leading technology expert and a value-added HP Power Services and HPE Partner with over 20 years of experience providing unique IT solutions and turn-key results to the public sector.

For more information, please contact the MRA Sales Team:

Email: sales@mrainternational.com

Phone: (732) 222-0997





Join Our Team as Deputy CFO for Monmouth County, NJ!

Monmouth County, New Jersey, is seeking a highly skilled and experienced **Deputy Chief Financial Officer (Deputy CFO)** to join our dynamic financial team. This is a unique opportunity to play a pivotal role in managing the fiscal health of one of New Jersey's most vibrant counties.

As Deputy CFO, you will work closely with the Chief Financial Officer to oversee all aspects of the county's financial operations, including budgeting, accounting, treasury/debt management, and financial reporting. We are looking for a forward-thinking leader with a strong understanding of governmental finance, excellent analytical abilities, and a proven track record of effective financial management.

Key Responsibilities:

- Assist the CFO in the preparation, implementation, and monitoring of the annual county budget.
- Oversee daily financial operations, including general ledger, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and payroll.
- Prepare comprehensive financial reports, analyses, and presentations for county officials and departments.
- Ensure compliance with all local, state, and federal financial regulations and auditing standards.
- Participate in long-range financial planning and strategic initiatives, including capital project financing.
- Supervise and mentor finance staff, fostering a collaborative and high-performing environment.
- Assist in managing the county's debt and investment portfolios.
- Facilitate accounting and annual audit of the Monmouth County Improvement Authority.
- Participate in technology implementation/ business process improvement projects.
- Serve as Acting CFO in the absence of the Chief Financial Officer.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Finance, Accounting, Public Administration, or a closely related field. A CPA/RMA/CMFO certification is highly preferred.

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- A minimum of 7 years of progressively responsible experience in governmental finance, with at least 3 years in a supervisory or management role.
- Proficiency with Edmunds financial software.
- Exceptional analytical, problem-solving, and decision-making skills.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to effectively collaborate with various stakeholders.
- Demonstrated leadership abilities and commitment to public service.

Why Work for Monmouth County?

Monmouth County offers a competitive salary and a comprehensive benefits package, including health, and prescription insurance, paid time off including 15 holidays, and participation in the New Jersey Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS). You will be part of a supportive work environment where your contributions are valued and professional growth is encouraged. Salary range \$90,000 - \$140,000 DOQ

To Apply:

For more information on how to apply, please visit www.TheCanningGroup.org, "Latest Job Postings" (right hand column). Qualified candidates are invited to take part in the search process and electronically submit resumes.

Interested candidates can also submit a resume and cover letter detailing their qualifications and experience to contactus@phoenixcqlc.com

Application Deadline: August 20, 2025

Monmouth County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.





Somerset County - Director of Public Health and Safety

Position Summary

The Director of Public Health and Safety administers the policies and procedures established by the County Administrator and the Somerset County Board of County Commissioners related to the activities of the Department of Public Health and Safety, inclusive of the 9-1-1 Communications Division, Public Safety Center, Department of Health, Weights and Measures, and the Office of Emergency Management. Supervises the operations of the Department of Public Health and Safety and ensures that the Division Heads follow proper procedures to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Essential Functions

- Administers the policies and procedures established by the County Administrator and the Board of County Commissioners in relation to the Department of Public Health and Safety and the Divisions within, including the Department of Health, 9-1-1 Communications, Public Safety Center, Weights and Measures, and the Office of Emergency Management. Ensure efficient services are provided to the citizens of Somerset County within each of these Divisions.
- Develops, administers, and monitors Departmental budgets as well as revenue in the form of program fees, grants and other allocations being provided to the County from State and Federal sources through the various Divisions so that services provided optimize all available funding.
- Directs an organization charged with administering and monitoring regulated activities to interpret and clarify laws and ensure compliance with laws.
- Administers, interprets, and explains policies, regulations, and laws to organizations and individuals.
- Develops, plans, organizes, and administers policies and procedures for organization to ensure administrative and operational objectives are met.
- Prepares budgets and directs and monitors expenditures of department funds.
- Directs and conducts studies and research and prepares reports and other publications related to operational trends and program objectives and accomplishments.
- Consults with staff and others in government, business, and private organizations to discuss issues, coordinate activities, and resolve problems.
- Negotiates contracts and agreements with other governmental agencies and organizations and prepares budget for funding and implementation of programs.
- Evaluates findings of investigations, surveys, and studies to formulate policies and techniques and recommend improvements for personnel actions, programs, or services.
- Directs and coordinates activities of employees and direct reports to ensure continuing operations and increased productivity.
- Communicates overall Departmental functioning and needs to the County Administrator on a regular basis to maintain optimal performance of the Department(s).
- Responds to inquiries and complaints and acts as a liaison between Municipal and State Officials on various projects, ensuring that projects are kept within budget allocations and completed within established deadlines.

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- Responds to inquiries from the Somerset County Board of County Commissioners as requested.
- Represents and provides testimony in litigation on behalf of the County and the Somerset County Board of County Commissioners.
- Interviews, evaluates, and develops employees. Addresses performance deficiencies in accordance with County policies.
- Participates in activities to promote and expand services.
- Performs other related duties as assigned by the County Administrator and/or the Board of County Commissioners.

Qualifications

- This position requires a four-year college degree along with ten years of supervisor experience in the public safety/health administration field and/or any combination of education and experience satisfactory to the Board of Commissioners.
- Knowledge of emergency management, police, fire, and emergency medical operations, as well as general working knowledge of communications systems inclusive of radios, microwave, tower construction, and 9-1-1 operations.
- Knowledge of Municipal and County budgeting, purchasing and financial processes.
- Ability to analyze, develop, and interpret County and public policies.
- Ability to work harmoniously with all Departments, associates, subordinates, and others having an interest in County government.
- Ability to take a leading role by providing needed advice and assistance with regards to communication systems, security enhancements, shared services initiatives, and development of County policies and procedures.
- Knowledge of Somerset County Public Health, Emergency Management, Fire, Police, EMS, Police/Fire Academy Operations, and other local government operations.
- Knowledge and experience in public safety dispatch, radio systems and emergency telephone systems (911). Knowledge of State and Federal emergency management operations, including disaster operations in the field (disaster scene) as well as disaster procedures.

Salary range: \$160,000-\$185,000/year

Benefits include health coverage (medical, prescription, and dental), paid time off (vacation, holidays, and sick), a deferred compensation plan, and enrollment in the NJ State Pension System.

Click link to apply: [Director of Public Health and Safety | Employment Opportunities | Somerset County](#)



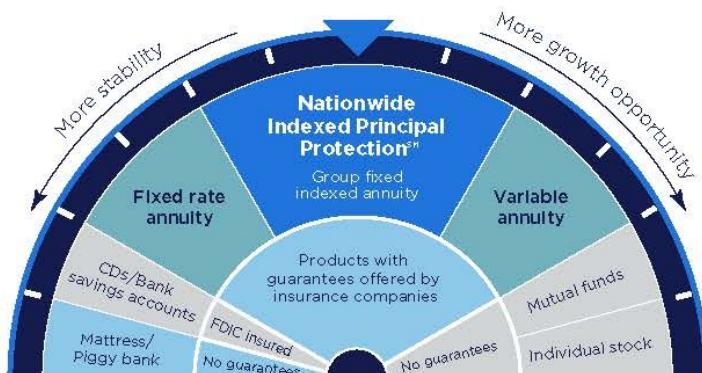


Downside protection with an opportunity for growth



Now more than ever, people want protection from volatility. Nationwide Indexed Principal Protection® (NW-IPP) is a long-term savings option that protects principal. That means no matter what the market does, the account is protected **and** it retains the opportunity for upside potential.

Common retirement savings options



Potential benefits of NW-IPP

Principal protection

- Principal investment protection from market declines can help provide confidence through unstable market conditions

Growth potential

- Any gains are locked in and become part of the principal at the end of the one-year Index Term*

Balanced approach

- NW-IPP is a group fixed indexed annuity, so as part of a wide range of investment options, it may offer a balance between protection and growth

Flexibility of choice

- Two contribution options: payroll deductions or a lump-sum dollar amount exchanged from another investment option in the plan (no minimum required)
- Money can be exchanged out of this investment option at any time without penalties (restrictions may apply)



Find out more by visiting our website. Contact your Nationwide Representative to learn more or to discuss adding this solution to your Plan.



The NACo Leadership Academy

Making Leaders Better.

Counties affect the lives of residents every day. When our staff are empowered as leaders, we deliver services more effectively. The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is a resource that connects your staff with practical leadership training. HPLA uses an innovative, interactive online learning platform that combines real-time webinars, recorded sessions and small group discussions to deliver effective training without traveling away from the county – saving money and maximizing time.

The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy empowers county government professionals with fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and residents.



The Academy Focuses On Five Essential Skills:



LEAD

Engage teams and stakeholders to foster positive climates and exceed common expectations



ORGANIZE

Plan, lead and execute organizational change more effectively and consistently



COLLABORATE

Establish alignment and strong partnerships through building stronger relationships



DELIVER

Measure projects and processes to deliver results aligned with county and community priorities



COMMUNICATE

Create clarity, confidence, and community



Enroll Yourself Or Your Team

With a curriculum developed by the late General Colin Powell and public and private sector leaders, NACo High Performance Leadership Academy gives students the opportunity to learn from world-class faculty. All content is guided by an expert facilitator.

NACo Member County cost per enrollee begins at \$1,995. Additional discounts may apply. **Or enroll 5 of your staff today for just \$5,000.** Contact us for more details.

Find out more at NACo.org/skills

Email moderator@pdaleadership.com

NACo Webinar

Exploring the Art of the Possible with AI for Countywide Services

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET

Register



This event will take place on Zoom. Please email nacomeetings@naco.org with any questions regarding registration or login issues.

Join the National Association of Counties (NACo) and C3 AI for a webinar on how artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming county-level government services. Building on NACo's successful Technology Information Forum, this session brings together AI experts and county leaders to explore real-world use cases, opportunities for pilots and proofs of concept, and practical tips to launch AI initiatives.

From automating property assessments to enhancing public safety investigations and improving constituent engagement, counties are already leveraging AI to modernize services, reduce costs, and deliver better outcomes for residents. This webinar will showcase how counties can responsibly implement AI to meet their missions faster, smarter, and more equitably.

Key topics include:

- ◆ **Property Appraisal Modernization:** Discover how counties are using AI to streamline residential and commercial valuations by integrating data from MLS, GIS, and CAMA systems while ensuring compliance with IAAO standards.
- ◆ **Constituent Services Powered by Generative AI:** Learn how counties can deploy multilingual AI chat tools to provide residents with timely and accurate answers on housing, healthcare, economic development, and more—backed by secure data and source citations.
- ◆ **Public Safety & Criminal Investigations:** See how AI is helping county law enforcement unify data from records management, dispatch, and evidence systems to accelerate investigations and improve interagency collaboration.
- ◆ **Permitting and Document Processing:** Explore how counties are reducing administrative backlogs and errors with AI that automates the review and scoring of permits, applications, and other records against internal guidelines and compliance checklists.
- ◆ **Emergency and Social Services Audio Analysis:** Understand how AI transcription and audio tagging tools are improving response times and reporting accuracy for 311 calls and social services hotlines.

Whether you're just starting out or scaling up, this session will offer insights and tools to help your county lead in AI-powered digital transformation.

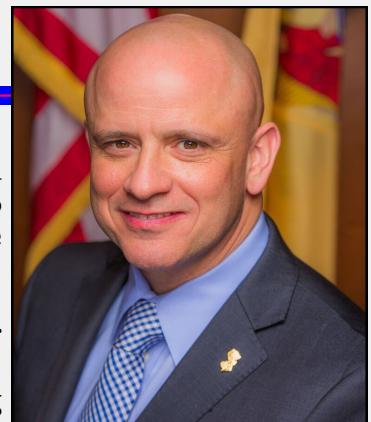
**Reserve your spot today and join the movement toward
smarter, more efficient county government.**



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NJAC's Legislative Affairs Committee is meeting later next month to consider and make recommendations on the Association's legislative goals for the 2025/26 legislative session when the Garden State will have a new Governor for the first time in nearly a decade along with several new members of the General Assembly.

With this in mind, NJAC is asking county leaders from across the State to share their thoughts and suggestions on potential goals within the parameters outlined below. During the previous legislative session, NJAC found success in proactively advocating for initiatives recommended by county officials such as modernizing the Open Public Records Act (OPRA), authorizing local governments to post legal notices online, permitting county commissioner boards to hold annual reorganization meetings at alternative locations, pursuing various reforms to streamline Civil Service, and more. Although a substantial degree of NJAC's advocacy and research is reactive in nature, pursuing well thought out legislative goals is critical for county governments' long-term success and much more enjoyable.



John G. Donnadio, Esq.

1. Recommendations should benefit county government as a whole and be non-partisan.
2. Recommendations should focus on streamlining county government operations.
3. Recommendations should be specific and tangible, so that we may quantify potential costs savings and other benefits.
4. Recommendations should be realistic and achievable.
5. Recommendations may include current initiatives such opposing the State's diversion of 911 fees and prohibiting the imposition of unfunded State mandates.

NJAC's Legislative Affairs Committee will provide a summary of its recommendations, which the Association's Board of Directors will consider at its next meeting on September 19th. In the meantime, we'll continue working to pursue the following during the lame-duck session:

1. Making changes to housing juveniles in county facilities.
2. Extending the Working Test Period.
3. Opposing the State's diversion of 911 fees and funding county 911 centers.
4. Protecting county governments negotiating power under Chapter 78.
5. Prohibiting the imposition of unfunded State mandates.

SAVE THE DATES

NJAC Virtual Workshop
September 17, 2025

NJAC Board of Directors Meeting
September 19, 2025

NJAC Virtual Workshop
October 29, 2025

EVENTS & HOLIDAYS