

2026 Advocate of the Year Celebration

REGISTRATION

**Please submit your
completed registration
form and payment to the
address listed below no
later than March 13, 2026**

Submit Registration & Payment to:

Soroptimist International of Toms River

Attn: Susan Sedivec

PO Box 4824

Toms River, NJ 08754-4824

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

**\$35.00 per person, payable to
Soroptimist International of Toms River**

Program Inquires: 732-506-5374

*Please email Terri Battaglio at
tbattaglio@co.ocean.nj.us if you would like
information displayed at this event.*

Women's Commission Overview

The Ocean County Advisory Commission on the Status of Women is dedicated to identifying the needs, concerns, problems and interests as well as services and resources for women in Ocean County. The Commission offers information pertinent to the needs of women through an Information and Referral service, awareness programs and publications. The Commission also advocates for the advancement of women in society by acting as a liaison to many community organizations, women's groups and social service agencies. Contact the Commission for additional information regarding programs, services, publications, and other important resource information.

Commission Members

Roberta Anne Burcz, Esq.

Dr. Mary Ellen T. Carr

Nina L. Charlton

Jenny Cody

Clyde H. Crofoot, Esq.

Jill DeAngelis, Clinical Director

Sally J. Harrison, MLS

Dr. Theresa Kubiel, DNP, MSN, NE-BC

Michele E. Lardieri, MBA

Norvella Lightbody

Dana Ann O'Connor, RN, BSN

Margaret A. Saunders

Susan Sedivec, MA

Kathryn Stevenson

Glynis Wray

April Yezzi, CPA, CFO

Hazel Gluck, Honorary Member

Ocean County Board of Commissioners

*Robert S. Arace
Jennifer Bacchione, Liaison
Sam Ellenbogen*

*Ray Gormley
Frank Sadeghi*

Ocean County Department of Human Services Advisory Commission on the Status of Women

*Jamie Busch, PhD, Director
Rose Marie Bulbach, Assistant Director
Terri Battaglio, Coordinator*

*1005 Hooper Avenue • P.O. Box 2191
Toms River, NJ 08754
Phone: 732-506-5374 • Fax: 732-341-4539*



2026 Women's Advocate of the Year

HONORING

**Ocean County Prosecutor's
Sexual Assault Response Team**

**March 21, 2026
Registration 8:30 am**

Clarion Hotel & Conference Center
815 Route 37 W
Toms River, NJ
\$35.00 per person
(Includes Breakfast)

Advocate of the Year 2026

The Ocean County Advisory Commission on the Status of Women is dedicated to identifying the needs, concerns, problems and interests as well as services and resources for women in Ocean County. As part of this mission, the Commission has developed the “Women’s Advocate of the Year” award. The award recognizes an agency, organization, program or individual that has demonstrated a personal commitment to women’s issues through the required leadership skills and resources necessary to advocate for improved services for women in Ocean County. This award is our way of thanking those who go above and beyond to meet the growing needs of our women residents and their families.

We invite you to attend our “Women’s Advocate of the Year” award ceremony to celebrate the achievements and advancements that have been made in providing quality programs and services to improve the lives of women.

Award Celebration Agenda

Registration
Welcoming Remarks
Award Presentation
Closing Remarks
Networking Opportunity

Program Sponsors

Ocean County Board of Commissioners
Ocean County Advisory Commission
on the Status of Women
Soroptimist International of Toms River

OC Prosecutor’s Sexual Assault Response Team



The Ocean County Prosecutor’s Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) was established in 1999 to provide victims of sexual assault with a compassionate, victim-centered response that prioritizes their needs, dignity, and well-being above all else. This multidisciplinary team delivers sensitive and trauma-informed services in a secure, non-judgmental environment, ensuring that every victim is treated with respect and care.

The victim-centered approach focuses on the individual needs and concerns of sexual assault victims, ensuring their voices are heard and their autonomy is respected throughout the investigative and medical process. The SART program operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, responding with unwavering dedication to coordinate comprehensive services for victims at their most vulnerable moments.

In addition to direct response services, the SART program collaborates closely with partnering agencies and the public to provide education and raise awareness on critical issues such as human trafficking, strangulation, and sexually transmitted infections—fostering a community committed to advocacy, prevention, and change.

The SART team is comprised of a Forensic Nurse Examiner, a Registered Nurse certified by the New Jersey Board of Nursing, who provides expert and compassionate medical care while ensuring the timely and appropriate collection of forensic evidence. A St. Francis Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate, a highly trained community volunteer, offers continuous emotional support throughout the interview, medical examination, and forensic process. The team is completed by a specially trained law enforcement officer with extensive experience in sexual assault investigations.

Through its coordinated and trauma-informed response, the SART program has a profound and lasting impact on the physical and emotional well-being of sexual assault victims, promoting healing, resilience, and hope.

The Advisory Commission on the Status of Women is proud to honor the Ocean County Prosecutor’s Sexual Assault Response Team by recognizing their expertise, achievements and continued commitment to women and their families.