

# Assembly: Fast Facts

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## New Jersey Psychiatric Association – A District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association

Assembly Recorder: Theresa Miskimen, MD, DFAPA

Area 3 Representative: Joseph C Napoli, MD, DLFAPA

Area 3 Deputy Representative: Bill Greenberg, MD, DFAPA

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## Top Ten FAQs about the DB Representative Role

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- 1. Why be a District Branch (DB) Representative?** DB Representatives are at the heart of national action and help to drive APA policy.
  - 2. Whom does a DB Representative serve?** A DB Representative serves and represents his/her DB and its members on the regional and national level.
  - 3. What is the forum for providing this representation?** A DB Representative is a member of the Assembly of the American Psychiatric Association and a member of an Area Council within the Assembly.
  - 4. What is the Area for the New Jersey Psychiatric Association?** NJPA is in Area 3 or the Middle Atlantic Area which also includes the District Branches of Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania, and the Washington Psychiatric Society, a district branch that consists of three chapters - Wash, DC, Northern Virginia, and the Maryland suburbs of Wash, DC. There are liaisons from three subspecialty organizations and the Southern Psychiatric Association. There is also representation for Early Career Psychiatrists (ECP) and Resident-Fellow Members (RFM).
  - 5. How many Assembly meetings does a DB Representative attend?** A DB Representative attends two Assembly meetings per year – one in conjunction with the APA Annual Meeting in May and one in Washington, DC during the fall.
  - 6. How many Area 3 Council Meetings does a New Jersey DB Representative attend?** A NJ DB Representative attends four Area 3 Council meetings per year but two are held during the Assembly meetings. There is an early fall meeting and a winter/spring meeting held outside the Assembly meetings.
  - 7. Does the APA pay the expenses of DB Representatives to attend these meetings?** The APA pays for hotel lodging and reimburses DB Representatives for travel expenses for the fall Assembly meeting. Furthermore, the APA reimburses DB Representatives for travel and lodging for the two Area meetings held outside of the Assembly meetings. Like any other APA member, DB Representatives pay for travel and lodging associated with the APA Annual Meeting.
  - 8. What are the specific responsibilities of DB Representatives?** DB Representatives shall “know the views of the DB or represented group leadership and membership, bring their concerns and requests for action to the Area Council and Assembly, solicit their views regarding already proposed Assembly actions, and represent those views in Area Council and Assembly discussion and floor debate; craft action papers addressing members concerns, proposing effective and feasible actions, and present such action papers to DB or represented group and Area Council for review before submission to the Assembly; report the activities of the Assembly back to the membership, both verbally and in writing, through available means; act as a resource for the general membership regarding other mechanisms by which the APA may respond to their needs, and recruit members among psychiatrists and trainees, encouraging their participation in DB and national activities, and mentor any members interested in Assembly office.”
  - 9. Is a NJ DB Representative a member of the NJPA Board of Trustees?** Yes, a NJ DB Representative is a non-voting member of the NJPA Board of Trustees.
  - 10. When does the NJPA BOT meet?** The NJPA BOT meets in July, September, November, January, March, April (annual business meeting) and May.
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Contact Your Assembly Members for Further Information.