

July 21, 2025

## Major Changes to NJ Public Notice Laws: What Public Entities Need to Know

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On June 30, 2025, Governor Murphy signed Senate Bill No. 4654 (codified as P.L.2025, c.72) into law, which significantly revises the State's public notice requirements. Most of the legislation's requirements become mandatory on March 1, 2026, and are optional until that date.

After March 1, 2026, public entities will be required to post *on their official websites* all legal notices they are required to publish or advertise. The websites must be "accessible and available to the public free of charge," and a direct hyperlink to the legal notices must be "conspicuously placed on the website's homepage." Public entities will be required to submit those hyperlinks to the Secretary of State, who will post them to an Internet website containing the hyperlink locations for all New Jersey public entities. Public entities may continue to use qualifying newspapers for required public notices and legal advertisements until March 1, 2026, regardless of format, if they choose to do so. There is no requirement to post notices in qualifying newspapers after that date.

A "legal notice" is defined as "any resolution, official proclamation, notice or advertisement of any sort, kind, or character, including proposals for bids on public work and otherwise, required by law or by the order or rule of any court to be published by a public entity, corporation, an individual, or any other entity." This includes mandatory notices of public meetings under the Open Public Meetings Act.

Additionally, beginning March 1, 2026, public entities will be required to "maintain an Internet archive of legal notices that are no longer displayed, which shall be kept for at least one year." Public entities must display the legal notices on their website for at least one (1) week, or the time required by law, before transferring them to the archive. "Local government units," which include counties, municipalities, "or other political subdivision[s] of the State, or any agency, board, commission, utilities authority or other authority, or other entity thereof, or a person who is a local government unit officer or employee," are not required to publish an archive until July 1, 2026.

### Florham Park

220 Park Avenue  
Florham Park, NJ 07932  
973-539-1000

### Paramus

115 West Century Road  
Suite 100  
Paramus, NJ 07652  
201-262-1600

### Sparta

351 Sparta Avenue  
Sparta, NJ 07871  
973-295-3670

### New York

9 East 40th Street  
New York, NY 10016  
646-652-7775

Moreover, local government units may, in addition to publication on their official websites, publish or advertise legal notices on eligible online news publications that meet the requirements set forth in the legislation.

The legislation further mandates that starting on January 1, 2026 and at least twice per month through December 31, 2026, public entities who are required to publish or advertise legal notices, as well as those who decide to publish or advertise a legal notice before then pursuant to this legislation, must provide an advertisement in an online news publication which: 1) “states that the complete text of each legal notice may be obtained or viewed by the public on the official Internet website of each public entity” and 2) “provides the hyperlink to the Secretary of State’s legal notices hyperlink Internet webpage.”

There are separate requirements which pertain to corporations, individuals, and other entities which are not public entities.

For more information on this new legislation or related issues, please contact the attorneys at SPSK.

*DISCLAIMER: This Alert is designed to keep you aware of recent developments in the law. It is not intended to be legal advice, which can only be given after the attorney understands the facts of a particular matter and the goals of the client.*