

Jonathan Cowles Bio



Jonathan has been the Executive Director of the Middlesex County Bar Association (MCBA) since 1992. During his tenure he has served multiple terms on both the District VIII (Middlesex County) Ethics and Fee Arbitration Committees. His work with the Middlesex County Bar Foundation has contributed in extraordinary ways to the lives of Middlesex County residents. In addition to supporting CASA of Middlesex County, the foundation has provided opportunities for legal education to children and adults, enhancements to the courthouses, and gifts for the homeless and others experiencing financial insecurity.

Prior to joining the MCBA, he was the Associate Director of the South Carolina Guardian ad Litem Program (South Carolina's CASA program) for seven years. During that time, he helped ensure that counties all across the state established programs that would advocate for children in foster care. He also served a term on the National Court Appointed Special Advocates Association Board of Trustees, and its Government Relations and Nominations Committees. Jonathan helped establish CASA of Middlesex County as one of its original board members in 2006.

Jonathan liaisons annually with the Middlesex family court, county surrogate and elected officials to hold Adoption Day. This celebratory event highlights the adoption of children in and out of foster care each year.

Jonathan received a BA in Political Science from Syracuse University and MPA from California State University at Hayward (now East Bay). During his studies at Syracuse, he was a 4-year varsity letterman in soccer. Following his graduation, he continued playing soccer until he was 51. He also served as the assistant varsity coach at his alma mater Westfield High School for two years, where the teams won three county championships. He continued coaching when he moved to South

Carolina, serving as the varsity coach at Hammond Academy in Columbia. His 1990 team won the Independent League state championship where he was named Coach of the Year.

Jonathan lives in Colts Neck with his wife, Martha, children Daniel and Abigail, and labradoodles Ollie and Darcy, who are both trained therapy dogs and "work" twice a month at The New Hope Drug Rehabilitation Center in Marlboro with their adult and adolescent residents.