



**Judicial Conduct Board**  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
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## **Press Release**

**Thursday, February 3, 2022**

**FROM: Richard W. Long**  
**Chief Counsel**

**SUBJECT: Appointment of New Member to the Judicial Conduct Board and**  
**Election of Officers**

### **APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBER**

HARRISBURG, PA – The Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce the recent appointment of Judge Mia R. Perez to the twelve-member Board. Governor Tom Wolf appointed Judge Perez to serve as a judge member of the Board. Her four-year term commenced January 26, 2022.

The Judicial Conduct Board is an independent body of Pennsylvania citizens that comprises three judges, three attorneys, and six non-lawyer electors. Half of the Board members are appointed by the Governor and half by the Supreme Court. The Board's members serve four-year terms, without pay, and no more than half of its appointed members may be from the same political party.

In 2016, Judge Perez became one of the youngest judges to serve on the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas bench. She currently sits in the Criminal Division and has presided over more than 1,700 non-homicide felony waiver and jury trials. In July 2021, Judge Perez was one of five Criminal Division judges tapped to participate in the Case Accelerated Resolution Program (CARP) program, designed to bring expedited resolutions to the many cases pending as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and has cleared more than 230 cases since the initiation of that program. Judge Perez also serves as the Supervising Judge of the city's Investigating Grand Jury Program.

Judge Perez has demonstrated her passion for teaching young lawyers by serving as an adjunct professor at the Temple University's James E. Beasley School of Law, teaching second- and third-year law students for ten years and coaching the school's distinguished Trial Advocacy Program. She also serves as an instructor for Trial Advocacy Consulting and Training, LLC. Judge Perez is a co-chair of the First Judicial District's Education Committee and also serves on the First Judicial District Jury Committee. Judge Perez is also a member of the First Judicial District Language Focus Group, the First Judicial District Criminal Division Pandemic Working Group, the Philadelphia Bar Association "Bench Bar" committee, the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision, and the Pennsylvania Bar

Association House of Delegates.

Judge Perez earned her bachelor's degree from Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts before enrolling at Temple University's Beasley School of Law. Upon graduating, Judge Perez accepted a position at the Defender Association of Philadelphia where she honed her skills as a trial attorney, dedicating thousands of hours to her cases, culminating with the representation of indigent defendants in the Court of Common Pleas, Major Trial Division.

Ready for a different challenge, Judge Perez was then tapped to serve as an associate at Friedman Schuman Applebaum, PC where she represented municipalities in counties throughout Southeast Pennsylvania and members of Laborers Union Local 135.

In 2011, Judge Perez established her own practice, Perez Law LLC, specializing in criminal defense and family law. The practice argued cases in federal court, in addition to counties throughout Pennsylvania, while maintaining an office in Philadelphia. Judge Perez handled various types of complex cases including sex trafficking and capital homicide.

Judge Perez was appointed to succeed Judge Nina Wright Padilla on the Board. Judge Wright Padilla's term expired January 24, 2022.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

At its February 1, 2022 meeting, the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania elected a new Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary. The Board unanimously elected Judge Renée Cohn Jubelirer to Chair, the Honorable Patricia H Jenkins to Vice-Chair, and Detective Joseph M. Brown to Secretary.

The Board acted to fill its vacant Chair, previously held by Judge Nina Wright Padilla, who departed the Board at the conclusion of her four-year term on January 24, 2022. Judge Renée Cohn Jubelirer previously served as Vice-Chair and had assumed the duties of the Chair since the end of Judge Wright Padilla's term. The Honorable Patricia Jenkins election filled the Vice-Chair vacancy created upon the election of Judge Cohn Jubelirer to the Chair. Mr. Brown's election filled the Secretary vacancy created by the January 3, 2022 resignation of Celeste Trusty.

### **About Judge Renée Cohn Jubelirer**

The Supreme Court appointed Judge Cohn Jubelirer to serve as the appellate judge member on the Board effective August 31, 2019. The Board elected her Vice-Chair on August 2, 2021. Her term of service on the Board will conclude August 30, 2023.

Judge Cohn Jubelirer, was elected as President Judge of the Commonwealth Court on January 7, 2022. She is currently serving her third ten-year term as a Judge of the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. She was elected to her first term in November 2001 and was retained in November 2011. She secured her current term via a November 2021 retention election. Prior to assuming the bench Judge Cohn Jubelirer was engaged in the private practice of law, was in-house counsel for a telecommunications company and an assistant solicitor for Lehigh County.

In addition to her primary judicial duties, Judge Cohn Jubelirer plays an active role in furthering the interests of justice in the Commonwealth. She currently serves, via Supreme Court appointment, as Co-Chair of the Pennsylvania Commission on Judicial Independence. Previously she served and as an inaugural member of the Continuing Judicial Education Board of Judges, as Co-Chair of the Supreme Court's Public Access Working Group, Trial and Appellate Court Records, as well as a member and past chair of the Supreme Court's Appellate Court Procedural Rules Committee.

She received her Bachelor of Arts from The Pennsylvania State University, her Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, from Northwestern University School of Law, and a Master of Laws in Judicial Studies from Duke University School of Law. Judge Cohn Jubelirer served as a teaching fellow at Stanford Law School, an assistant professor at DePaul University College of Law, and as an adjunct professor at Penn State Law.

She is a member of the American Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Judge Cohn Jubelirer serves on the Workers' Compensation Liaison, Appellate Advocacy, Judicial Administration, and Women in the Profession Committees of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

#### **About Honorable Patricia H. Jenkins**

The Supreme Court appointed the Honorable Patricia H. Jenkins to serve as an attorney member on the Board effective August 16, 2018. She serves as Chair of the Board's Budget Committee. Her term of service on the Board will conclude August 15, 2022.

Judge Jenkins, of Delaware County, was appointed to the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas by Governor Robert P. Casey in 1993 and was elected to full term later in 1993 and retained for two ten-year terms. She was appointed by Governor Tom Corbett to the Superior Court of Pennsylvania and confirmed by the Senate in December 2013. She served on the Superior Court until January 2016 and served as Senior Judge on the Superior Court until the end of 2016.

Following service as a Senior Judge, she returned to the practice of law. She was a former partner at Kassab Archbold Jackson & O'Brien law firm and served as solicitor for Delaware County Department of Human Services. She taught Paralegal Studies at Villanova and Widener Universities. She served on the advisory board of Villanova's Matthew J. Ryan Center for the Study of Free Institutions and the Public Good, named in honor of her late husband, Pennsylvania State Representative and Speaker of the House, the Honorable Matthew J. Ryan.

She is a member of the American, Pennsylvania and Delaware County Bar Associations. She served on the Board of Overseers of the Veterinary School of the University of Pennsylvania from 2007-2016; served on Board of Directors of Riddle Memorial Hospital and Board of Trustees of Haverford State Hospital.

Judge Jenkins received her Bachelor of Science from Albright College, her Juris Doctor from the Dickinson School of Law and a Master of Laws from Villanova University Graduate Tax Program.

### **About Detective Joseph M. Brown**

Governor Tom Wolf appointed Detective Joseph M. Brown to serve as a lay member on the Board effective December 4, 2018. He serves on the Board's Budget Committee. His term of service on the Board will conclude December 3, 2022.

Detective Brown currently serves as a detective in the Berks County Office of the District Attorney. He is retired as Sergeant with West Reading Police Department (1991-2019). While at West Reading, he served as patrol officer, criminal investigator and ultimately, patrol sergeant. He is an experienced polygraph examiner.

Detective Brown serves as President Berks Lodge #71, Fraternal Order of Police. He also serves as: President Berks County Police Heroes Fund (founder); Treasurer of Pennsylvania State Order of Police, an organization that represents over 40,000 active and retired members of law enforcement across the Commonwealth.

He earned his Bachelor of Arts from Alvernia University and is currently a graduate student pursuing his Masters in Public Administration from West Chester University. He also holds the following: Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command (2018); Reading Area Community College, Associates Degree in Public Administration (2016), Associates Degree in Law Enforcement Administration (1999); Reading Police Academy (1986); His awards and Commendations include: Police Officer of the Year (1998); Medal of Honor; Combat Cross (2); Wound Award; Gallantry Star (3); Exceptional Duty Award; Federal Bureau of Investigation-Letter of Commendation; Reading Bureau of Police-Letter of Commendation; and West Reading Police Department-Letter of Commendation. His professional memberships include the American Association Police Polygraphists and the American Polygraph Association.

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Created by constitutional amendment in 1993, the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania is an independent board within the judicial branch of the Commonwealth's government responsible for reviewing, investigating, and, where warranted, prosecuting complaints of judicial misconduct. If the Board, by majority vote, decides that there is probable cause to believe that a judge engaged in misconduct, the Board may file a complaint in the Court of Judicial Discipline where the Board must prove the charges against the judge by clear and convincing evidence. The Court of Judicial Discipline decides if the Board has sustained its burden of proof and decides the sanction to be imposed for any proven misconduct.

For further information about the Judicial Conduct Board, visit the Board's Website at [www.jcbpa.org](http://www.jcbpa.org).###