



Judicial Conduct Board
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
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Press Release

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FROM: Melissa L. Norton
Chief Counsel

SUBJECT: Judicial Conduct Board Elects Officers

HARRISBURG, PA – At its February 14, 2023 meeting, the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania (“Board”) elected its officers for the coming year. The Board unanimously elected Nancy L. Clemens to Chair, the Honorable William C. Wenner to Vice-Chair, and Attorney Scott B. Cooper to Secretary.

The twelve-member Board is an independent Board within the Judicial Branch of the Commonwealth’s government comprised of twelve Pennsylvania citizens: three judges, three lawyers and six non-lawyer electors. The Governor and the Supreme Court each appoint six of the Board’s members. The Board’s members serve four-year terms, without pay, and no more than one-half of its members may be from the same political party.

Created by constitutional amendment in 1993, the Board reviews, investigates, and, where warranted, prosecutes 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 also decides the sanction to be imposed upon the judge for any proven misconduct.

About Nancy L. Clemens

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania appointed Ms. Clemens to serve as a non-lawyer member on the Board effective January 20, 2020. Her term of service will conclude on January 19, 2024.

Ms. Clemens is a 1987 graduate of Bloomsburg University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. She went on to earn her Masters in Criminal Court Management from Shippensburg University in 1999. In 2008, she received a fellowship at the National Center for State Courts’ Institute for Court Management.

Ms. Clemens serves as the Children and Youth Service Line Director for Service Access and Management, Inc. (SAM), overseeing all of SAM's Children and Youth programming across Pennsylvania. She previously served as Administrator of the Tioga County Department of Human Services in Wellsboro; as a Probation/Parole Officer (1995-2002); and as the District Court Administrator for Tioga County (2003-2016). She is a Certified Court Executive and received a Special Commendation from the Pennsylvania Supreme Court for work on the Judicial Security Council (2016). Further, Ms. Clemens served as a commissioned officer in the United States Army, branched Military Police (1987- 1991); and served in a variety of law enforcement and combat preparatory roles while stationed at Fort Richardson, Alaska.

Ms. Clemens is an active member of Tioga County's Criminal Justice Advisory Board, Children's Roundtable and Opioid Coalition; Board Member for Tioga County Partnership for Community Health; instructor at Mansfield University Municipal Police Academy, the Pennsylvania State University Deputy Sheriffs' Academy, and the Child Welfare Resource Center. She is married with four children and seven grandchildren.

About Magisterial District Judge William C. Wenner

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania appointed Judge Wenner to serve as the magisterial district judge member on the Board effective March 14, 2020. His term of service will conclude on March 13, 2024.

Judge Wenner has served as a magisterial district judge in Dauphin County since he was appointed in 2003. He is a member of the Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania, Dauphin County Prison Board and other select Criminal Justice committees. He currently serves on the MDJ Court Security Task Force.

Judge Wenner is the former Chief County Detective for the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) of the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office, a position he held from 1995 until his retirement in 2003. Judge Wenner joined the CID staff as a detective in 1988 and was promoted to Detective Sergeant in 1992. Prior to joining the CID, he served as a law enforcement officer with police departments in Susquehanna Township, Penbrook and Paxtang Boroughs in Dauphin County.

Judge Wenner is an Instructor with the Police Academy at the Harrisburg Area Community College and the Lead firearms instructor there. He a regular guest Lecturer at the Pennsylvania State Police Academy in Hershey as well as the PA. Game Commission.

Judge Wenner earned an associate degree in police science from the Harrisburg Area Community College and has completed advanced undergraduate work through the University of Virginia. In 2001 he successfully completed the PA. District Justice Training Program and was certified by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. He is a graduate of the 201st Session of the prestigious FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He has also earned certificates for successful completion of the Law Enforcement Executive Development Program at Princeton University and of the Police Executive Development Institute at Pennsylvania State University.

He graduated from the 34th Municipal Police Officers Academy of the Pennsylvania State Police in 1979.

Judge Wenner is active in both professional and community service organizations.

About Scott B. Cooper, Esquire

Governor Tom Wolf appointed Mr. Cooper to serve as a lawyer member on the Board effective July 30, 2021. His term of service will conclude on July 29, 2025.

Mr. Cooper is a partner at Schmidt Kramer P.C., a Harrisburg-based personal injury law firm where he specializes in personal injury law with an emphasis on motor vehicle accident and insurance cases. He is a member and past-president of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice (PAJ), a member of the American Association for Justice (AAJ) and the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He currently serves as President of the Dauphin County Bar Association. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Joe Allegrini Children's Hero Fund.

Mr. Cooper serves on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania's Civil Procedure Rules Committee and previously served on the Supreme Court's Appellate Rules Committee. He served as co-chair for then Governor-Elect Tom Wolf's transition team committee for the Department of the Commonwealth/State and has been appointed as a Hearing Officer with the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Cooper is a frequent lecturer and author. He is also active in the community through his involvement with the Harrisburg Jewish Community Center and as an Adjunct Professor at Widener University Commonwealth Law School, Harrisburg.

Mr. Cooper holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University at Albany, Albany, New York. He earned his Juris Doctor from Widener University School of Law.

For further information about the Judicial Conduct Board, visit the Board's Website at www.jcbpa.org.###