



Judicial Conduct Board
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
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Press Release

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TO: Press

**FROM: Robert A. Graci
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SUBJECT: Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania Elects Officers for 2018

At its regularly scheduled meeting held on February 5, 2018, the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania elected its officers for 2018. The Board unanimously elected Judge P. Kevin Brobson as Chair, Judge Elizabeth S. “Liesl” Beckley as Vice-Chair, and Mrs. Lisa Kronenfeld Steindel as Secretary. Board Member James Schwartzman, Esquire, who served as Board Chair for two terms from 2016 through 2018 did not seek reelection. He will continue to serve the balance of his term, which runs until August 16, 2018.

The 12-member Judicial Conduct 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 half of the Board’s members. The Board’s members serve four-year terms, without pay, and no more than half of its members may be from the same political party.

About Judge P. Kevin Brobson

The Supreme Court appointed Judge P. Kevin Brobson to the Board on August 31, 2015. He serves as the appellate court member of the twelve-member Board. His four-year term will expire on August 31, 2019.

Judge Brobson was elected to the Commonwealth Court in November 2009. He received his commission and took the oath of office on January 4, 2010.

In addition to his judicial duties on the Commonwealth Court, Judge Brobson serves on the Widener Commonwealth Law School Board of Advisors. He is completing a two-year term as the law school’s Jurist-in-Residence, lecturing on judicial ethics, privacy rights, and government transparency.

Prior to taking office, Judge Brobson was a shareholder in the Harrisburg office of the law firm Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC and served as Chair of the firm’s Insurance & Reinsurance

Practice Group. While in private practice, Judge Brobson focused on representing clients on matters frequently considered by the Commonwealth Court, such as insurance and health care regulation, professional licensure, and government contracting. He represented numerous clients in cases before the Commonwealth Court and various state agencies, including the Gaming Control Board, the Insurance Department, and the Department of Revenue. Judge Brobson has also served his local community as a member of the Middle Paxton Township Planning Commission.

He received his undergraduate degree from Lycoming College, *magna cum laude*. He graduated second in his class from the Widener Commonwealth Law School, *summa cum laude*. Judge Brobson also served as the Internal Managing Editor of the school's *Law Review*. Following law school, he clerked for the Honorable James McGirr Kelly of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

About Judge Elizabeth S. "Liesl" Beckley

The Supreme Court appointed Magisterial District Judge Elizabeth S. "Liesl" Beckley to the Judicial Conduct Board to a four-year term starting on March 14, 2016. She serves as the magisterial district judge member of the Board. Her term will run until March 14, 2020.

Judge Beckley has served as a Magisterial District Judge in Cumberland County since January 2, 2012. She is also an attorney with the law firm of Beckley & Madden, LLC, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and continues to engage in private practice on a part-time basis.

She received her law degree from the Thomas M. Cooley School of Law in Lansing, Michigan, where she was the winner of an American Jurisprudence Award for Excellence in Trial Advocacy. Judge Beckley received her B.A. in Criminal Justice from the American University, in Washington, D.C.

Judge Beckley is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. Until her appointment to the Board, she served as a Hearing Committee Member of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania from 2011 until 2016. She also served as a volunteer Conference Officer for Dauphin County Domestic Relations in 2000.

Judge Beckley is a member of the American Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Association and has served as a Member of the PBA House of Delegates since May 2002. She is a Member of the Dauphin County Bar Association, which she served as President in 2011, and a Social Member of the Cumberland County Bar Association.

Judge Beckley is a past member of the Camp Hill Borough Council, the Capital Region Council of Governments, and the West Shore Area Jaycees, having served as President from 1996

through 2002. She is currently a member of the Camp Hill Woman's Club, and served as President in 2012/2013.

About Mrs. Lisa Kronenfeld Steindel

The Supreme Court initially appointed Member Steindel on January 20, 2016, to fill the unexpired term of a former Board Member who had passed away. That term ran until September 24, 2016. At that time, the Supreme Court reappointed her to the balance of a four-year term that will run until January 20, 2020. She is one of the non-lawyer electors serving on the Board.

A native of Erie, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Steindel is a 1970 graduate of Academy High School. She went on to receive a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Pittsburgh and a Masters of Education in Vocational Counseling. Following her certification in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling, she was employed as a Career Counselor at the Career Development Center, assisting displaced workers, recent graduates, and homemakers returning to the work force. Mrs. Steindel went on to establish her own career counseling practice, What Should I Be, LLC. Through her practice, she was called to act as an expert witness in divorce cases.

Member Steindel is married to Rabbi Stephen Steindel, who serves as Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation Beth Shalom in Pittsburgh. During their 35 years in Pittsburgh, they have served two Congregations in the area. She was among the founders of the Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Pittsburgh and was involved in the merger of that school with The Community Day School in 1988. She was on the Board of Directors of the Rainbow Kitchen in Homestead, and served as Chairman of its Capital Campaign in 1998. She was also instrumental in the establishment of the Squirrel Hill Kosher Pantry and served for three years as its Director. The Steindels have been married for 40 years and are the proud parents of four children and nine grandchildren.

From 2004 to 2009, Mrs. Steindel was the Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Jewish Committee and worked to establish and maintain interfaith relations with the Catholic Diocese, the Hindu Sri Venkateswara Temple Community, and the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh. After retiring in 2009, she continues to teach in the Pittsburgh Catholic Diocese High Schools as part of the Catholic-Jewish Education Enrichment Program.

Mrs. Steindel is a Life Member of the National Council of Jewish Women, Hadassah, and Na'amat. She currently serves as President of the Pittsburgh Counsel of Na'amat, an organization dedicated to the support of all women and children in the State of Israel, across ethnic and religious lines.

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.

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