



**Judicial Conduct Board**  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Robert A. Graci, Chief Counsel  
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## **Press Release**

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**February 29, 2016**

**TO: Press**

**FROM: Robert A. Graci  
Chief Counsel**

**SUBJECT: Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania Elects Officers for 2016**

At its regularly scheduled meeting held on February 2, 2016, the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania elected its officers for 2016. The Board unanimously elected James C. Schwartzman, Esquire, as Chair, Mr. Gary S. Scheimer as Vice-Chair, and Richard T. Frazier, Esquire, as Secretary. With her Board term ending in March, Magisterial District Judge Jayne F. Duncan, who served as Board Chair since February of 2015, did not seek another term as Chair.

The 12-member Judicial Conduct Board is an independent body of Pennsylvania citizens comprised of three judges, three lawyers and six non-lawyers. Half of the Board members are chosen by the Governor and half by the Pennsylvania 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.

### **About James C. Schwartzman**

James C. Schwartzman, Esquire, was appointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to a four year term as a lawyer member of the Judicial Conduct Board commencing August 16, 2014 and ending on August 16, 2018.

Schwartzman is a shareholder in the Philadelphia office of Stevens & Lee where he chairs the Ethics and Professional Responsibility Group. He previously ran his own firm and was a named partner in Schwartzman & Hepps. He has extensive experience representing and counseling lawyers, law firms and judges on ethics-related issues. He has an active federal white collar criminal defense practice and extensive trial experience in both civil and criminal matters in most of the courts in southeastern Pennsylvania. Schwartzman holds memberships in the Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Bar Associations, the Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Associations, and the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers.

Schwartzman is a former Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and was a law clerk for the Honorable J. William Ditter, Jr., United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. He has been an instructor at the United States Attorney General's Advocacy Institute and Temple University School of Law. He has served by appointment of the Supreme Court on the Disciplinary Board, the Continuing Legal Education Board, and the Interest on Lawyers Trust Account (IOLTA) Board. He served each of these Boards as both Chair and Vice-Chair. He has been a member of the Southeast Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) Board of Directors since 1991 and served as Vice-Chair from 1999 until 2013. He has also been a member of the Independence Blue Cross Board of Directors since 1993 and serves on its Executive and Finance Committee.

Selected by his peers as among the top five percent of lawyers in the Commonwealth, Schwartzman has been recognized as a *Pennsylvania Super Lawyer* from 2004 through 2015. He was named one of the top 100 Super Lawyers in Pennsylvania in 2009, 2010 and 2012, and one of the top 100 *Super Lawyers* in Philadelphia in 2010 and 2012. In addition, he has been selected by his peers as one of The Best Lawyers in America for his work in Malpractice Law and Ethics and Professional Responsibility Law, and he has been named Lawyer of the Year in the areas of Ethics and Professional Responsibility Law and Legal Malpractice Law.

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### **About Gary S. Scheimer**

Mr. Gary S. Scheimer was appointed by Order of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to a four-year term on the Board as a non-lawyer elector member commencing October 9, 2012 and ending on October 9, 2016.

Scheimer was born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA, where he graduated from Mt. Lebanon High School in 1972. In May, 1976, he graduated Magna Cum Laude from Kent State University with a Bachelor's degree in Law Enforcement Administration with a field of concentration in Political Science. While at Kent State University, he was admitted into Alpha Phi Sigma, the National Police Science Honorary, and Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honorary in recognition of his academic achievements.

In May 1982, Scheimer graduated first in his class from the Allegheny County Police Academy. He served on the Dormont Police Department in various capacities for 28 years, retiring in 2009 with the rank of Sergeant. During his tenure with the Dormont Police Department, he received the Governor's Highway Safety Award in 1998 and he received citations from both the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Senate for his role in solving a 2002 homicide. In February, 2003, Scheimer received the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 91 Excellence in Law Enforcement Award. He served as President of the Dormont Police Association from 2001-2009.

After his retirement from the Dormont Police Department in 2009, Scheimer joined the Carnegie Mellon University Police Department as a Police Lieutenant where he served as the Commander of Police Services until his retirement in 2015.

## **About Richard T. Frazier**

Richard T. Frazier, Esquire, was appointed to the Board by Governor Tom Corbett on February 4, 2014. He serves as one of three lawyer members of the Board. He was appointed to a four-year term that will expire on February 4, 2018.

Frazier is a partner in the Philadelphia and Chesterbrook law offices of Saul Ewing, LLP. He joined the law firm as an associate in 1976 and served on its executive committee from 1999 until 2004.

Frazier concentrates his practice on business, tax and health law matters. He is involved in the Section of Taxation the Health Law Section of the American Bar Association (ABA) and was a member of the Joint Task Force of Health Law and Taxation Sections of the ABA which is prepared comments on Accountable Care Organizations for submission to the Internal Revenue Service. He is also a member of the Pennsylvania Department of State's Corporation Bureau Advisory Committee.

In addition to his professional associations, Frazier is and has been involved in a number of civic activities. From 2005 to 2014, he has served on the Board of Supervisors of Easttown Township in Chester County and became Chairman of the Board in 2012. He is a member of the Chester County International Trade Council of the Chester County Economic Development Council. He has served on the Board of and currently serves as counsel to Public Citizens for Children and Youth (formerly known as Philadelphia Citizens for Children and Youth), the leading child advocacy organization in the greater Philadelphia area, which he helped create in 1980.

Rich received his Bachelor's degree, with honors, from Dartmouth College. He received his Masters of Business Administration from Dartmouth's Tuck School of Business. He was awarded both his Juris Doctor degree, as well as his Masters of Legal Letters degree in Taxation from the Villanova University School of Law where he served as editor of the law review and a member of the Order of the Coif. In 2005, Rich was selected for inclusion in *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers*.

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Created by constitutional amendment in 1993, the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania is an independent state agency 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 also 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).

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