



Judicial Conduct Board
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
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Press Release

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

FROM: Francis J. Puskas, II
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SUBJECT: Appointment of New Member to the Judicial Conduct Board

HARRISBURG, PA -- The Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce the recent appointment of President Judge Emeritus (ret) Susan Peikes Gantman to the twelve-member Board. The Supreme Court appointed Judge Gantman to serve as a lawyer member of the Board. Her four-year term commenced August 16, 2022. Judge Gantman succeeds retired Judge Patricia H. Jenkins, whose term expired August 15, 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.

Judge Gantman's distinguished career as a jurist and attorney bring to the Board a wealth of legal experience from both the private and public sectors. She is a 1974 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, *cum laude*, and a Masters of Arts degree. She went on to earn her Juris Doctor from Villanova University School of Law in 1977.

Before becoming a judge, Judge Gantman maintained a private law practice from 1981-1991. She also served as solicitor for the Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth and the Montgomery County House and Community Development. From 1991-1998, Judge Gantman was a partner at Sherr Joeffe & Zuckerman, P.C., where she served as Chair of the Domestic Relations Section. From 1998-2003, Judge Gantman served as a senior member and Co-Chair of the Family Law Section at Cozen O'Connor. She also served as the solicitor for the Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth and Montgomery County Housing and Community Development. Further, she served as an Assistant District Attorney in Montgomery County and as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Richard S. Lowe of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. Judge Gantman's considerable legal experience and expertise encompassed litigation, domestic relations law, juvenile law, orphans' court litigation, municipal law, zoning law, criminal law, and appellate practice.

In 2003, Judge Gantman was elected to a ten-year term on the Superior Court, and afterward retained for another ten-year term in 2013. She was elected by her peers as President Judge of the Superior Court for a five-year term running from January 7, 2014 to January 6, 2019. On April 1, 2020, Judge Gantman took senior status on the Superior Court. She retired in December 2021.

Judge Gantman is a member of the American, Pennsylvania, Montgomery County, and Philadelphia County Bar Associations. She was the Chair of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania's Records Management Committee. She has received numerous recognitions, including the Eric Turner Memorial Award from the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section, the Anne X. Alpern Award from the Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession, the Women of the Year 2014 Award from the Legal Intelligencer, and was designated a Super Lawyer by Philadelphia Magazine. Judge Gantman is also a frequent lecturer and has been heavily involved in community service.

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 also decides the sanction to be imposed upon the judge for any proven misconduct.

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

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