

Judicial Conduct Board Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Robert A. Graci, Chief Counsel 717-234-7911

Press Release

February 28, 2018

TO:

Press

FROM:

Robert A. Graci Chief Counsel

SUBJECT:

William I. Maruszczak Magisterial District Judge District Court 38-1-09 38th Judicial District Montgomery County

Harrisburg. On February 27, 2018, the Judicial Conduct Board today filed formal charges by Board Complaint in the Court of Judicial Discipline against Montgomery County Magisterial District Judge William I. Maruszczak. The Board Complaint alleges violations of the Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Under the Pennsylvania Constitution, Judge Maruszczak, as the subject of the charges, is presumed innocent in all proceedings before the Court of Judicial Discipline. The Board has the burden of proving the charges filed in the Court of Judicial Discipline by clear and convincing evidence.

In accordance with the rules which govern proceedings before the Court of Judicial Discipline, Judge Maruszczak has the right to respond to the charges, to obtain and inspect the evidence which forms the basis of the allegations, and to a public trial before the Court of Judicial Discipline.

Upon completion of the trial, if the Court determines that any of the charges have been proven by clear and convincing evidence, it will schedule a Sanctions Hearing to determine what sanction should be imposed. Possible sanctions include censure, suspension, fine or removal from office.

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 for any proven misconduct.

Please visit the Board's website at <u>www.jcbpa.org</u> (select the Resource Tab then select Press Releases in the drop down menu) to view the Board Complaint.

Counsel:

Board: James P. Kleman, Jr., Deputy Counsel

Melissa L. Norton, Assistant Counsel

Judge: Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire

Contact: Robert A. Graci, Chief Counsel

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

2018 FEB 27 P

IN RE:

William I. Maruszczak Magisterial District Judge

Magisterial District Judge
Magisterial District 38-1-09

38th Judicial District

Montgomery County

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TO: WILLIAM I. MARUSZCZAK

You are hereby notified that the Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board has determined that there is probable cause to file formal charges against you for conduct proscribed by Article V, § 17(b) and § 18(d)(1) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges. The Board's counsel will present the case in support of the charges before the Pennsylvania Court of Judicial Discipline.

You have an absolute right to be represented by a lawyer in all proceedings before the Court of Judicial Discipline. Your attorney should file an entry of appearance with the Court of Judicial Discipline within fifteen (15) days of service of this Board Complaint in accordance with C.J.D.R.P. No. 110.

You are hereby notified, pursuant to C.J.D.R.P. No. 302(B), that should you elect to file an omnibus motion, that motion should be filed no later than thirty (30) days after the service of this Complaint in accordance with C.J.D.R.P. No. 411.

You are further hereby notified that within thirty (30) days after the service of this Complaint, if no omnibus motion is filed, or within twenty (20) days after the dismissal of all or part of the omnibus motion, you may file an Answer admitting or denying the allegations contained in this Complaint in accordance with C.J.D.R.P. No. 413. Failure to file an Answer shall be deemed a denial of all factual allegations in the Complaint.

COMPLAINT

AND NOW, this 27th day of February, 2018, comes the Judicial Conduct Board of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Board) and files this Board Complaint against the Honorable William I. Maruszczak, Magisterial District Judge for Magisterial District 38-1-09 of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, alleging that Judge Maruszczak violated the Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges (RGSCMDJ), and Article V, § 17(b) and § 18(d)(1) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as more specifically delineated herein.

- Article V, § 18 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania grants
 to the Board the authority to determine whether there is probable cause to file
 formal charges against a judicial officer in this Court, and thereafter, to prosecute
 the case in support of such charges in this Court.
- From June 26, 1997, and continuing to the present, Judge Maruszczak has served continuously as a duly elected Magisterial District Judge for Magisterial District Court No. 38-1-09 in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.
- 3. As a duly elected Magisterial District Judge, Judge Maruszczak was at all times relevant hereto subject to all the duties and responsibilities imposed on him by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the RGSCMDJ adopted by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.
- Based on information received by the Judicial Conduct Board throughout 2015 and
 2016, the Board investigated Judge Maruszczak's conduct.
- 5. As a result of its investigation, and pursuant to Article V, § 18(a)(7) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Board determined that

there is probable cause to file formal charges against Judge Maruszczak in this Court.

A. Improper Campaign Conduct

- 6. During 2015, Judge Maruszczak was seeking reelection to his judicial seat.
- He was challenged in the 2015 primary and general elections by Ian Kingsley,
 Esquire.

Marcene Rogovin

- Marcene Rogovin (Mrs. Rogovin) is the widow of Charles Rogovin, one of Judge
 Maruszczak's former professors at Temple University Law School.
- Judge Maruszczak was acquainted with Mrs. Rogovin primarily by virtue of his friendship with her now-deceased husband.
- 10. At some point prior to or on May 19, 2015, the date of the primary election, Judge Maruszczak was told that Mrs. Rogovin was working for Ian Kingsley, Esquire, at the Saint Gertrude's Church polling place in Conshohocken, which was Mrs. Rogovin's home polling place.
- 11. Based upon this information, Judge Maruszczak travelled to the Saint Gertrude's polling place to speak with Mrs. Rogovin about her alleged support of his opponent.
- When Judge Maruszczak arrived at the Saint Gertrude's polling place, he saw Mrs.
 Rogovin working there as a volunteer for the Democratic Party.
- Judge Maruszczak approached Mrs. Rogovin and a group of other volunteers who were outside the polling place.
- 14. Judge Maruszczak accused Mrs. Rogovin of supporting his opponent.
- 15. Judge Maruszczak yelled at Mrs. Rogovin

- 16. While yelling at Mrs. Rogovin, Judge Maruszczak stated that "This [meaning his office] is my livelihood!"
- 17. Judge Maruszczak told Mrs. Rogovin that he was going to call Mrs. Rogovin's husband, then living, and complain about her act of supporting Judge Maruszczak's opponent.
- 18. At that moment, Judge Maruszczak attempted to call Charles Rogovin with his cell phone, but did not reach him.
- 19. Judge Maruszczak left a voicemail message for Charles Rogovin, wherein he stated that Mrs. Rogovin was working against him and that she needed to stop doing so because Charles Rogovin was Judge Maruszczak's friend.
- 20. After the general election, Judge Maruszczak was informed that, on the day of the general election in Montgomery County, Mrs. Rogovin worked for his opponent.
- 21. On November 4, 2015, the day after election day in Montgomery County, Judge Maruszczak left a voicemail on the Rogovins' home telephone.
- 22. Mrs. Rogovin transcribed the voicemail after playing it.
- 23. The voicemail stated the following:

Charlie, this is Bill Maruszczak. It is Wednesday, November 4th, a little after nine. Marcy worked against me yesterday, and I still won the election. Next week, after I return from vacation, I will hold a press conference and charge that Marcy covered up an accident when [former Philadelphia Municipal Court Judge] Joe Waters visited your house earlier this year. She started this, and I am going to finish it!

- 24. Mrs. Rogovin was not involved in any "cover up" of former Judge Waters' vehicle accident.
- 25. Judge Maruszczak did not actually intend to hold any press conference regarding the event.

Robert DeFelice

- 26. Robert DeFelice is a former member of the Montgomery County Republican Committee.
- Judge Maruszczak and Mr. DeFelice were acquainted as casual friends for approximately 20 years.
- 28. Until approximately May 2015, Judge Maruszczak and Mr. DeFelice would see each other in public around the Montgomery County area and speak to each other.
- 29. In approximately February 2015, Mr. DeFelice saw Judge Maruszczak at a restaurant and told him about a dispute in which he was involved with Infiniti of Ardmore regarding an automobile warranty issue.
- 30. Although not a licensed attorney, Judge Maruszczak was a law school graduate; he offered to assist Mr. DeFelice with the legal problem he had with Infiniti of Ardmore.
- 31. Judge Maruszczak told Mr. DeFelice to come to his court office and that he would draft a sample civil complaint against Infiniti of Ardmore for Mr. DeFelice to copy and file in the appropriate district court in Ardmore.
- 32. Mr. DeFelice agreed with Judge Maruszczak's offer of assistance.
- Mr. DeFelice stopped by Judge Maruszczak's court office at some point in February
 2015.
- 34. Using a civil complaint form that had been printed earlier from his Unified Judicial System computer as a sample, Judge Maruszczak filled out a sample complaint in his own hand, including the sections for the name and address for the plaintiff and defendant; the amount requested in judgment; and the factual narrative.

- 35. Judge Maruszczak crossed out his preprinted name, title, and court office address that appeared on the sample complaint.
- 36. Judge Maruszczak marked with an "x" the part of the sample complaint where Mr. DeFelice was to sign the complaint that he intended to file, which was to be copied from the sample complaint.
- 37. Mr. DeFelice asked Judge Maruszczak if he should hire an attorney to handle the matter.
- 38. In response to Mr. DeFelice's question about hiring an attorney, Judge Maruszczak assured Mr. DeFelice that his copying of the complaint would be enough for the presiding judge to rule in Mr. DeFelice's favor.
- 39. Judge Maruszczak told Mr. DeFelice that he would go to court with him and that he would provide "moral support" for Mr. DeFelice.
- 40. Mr. DeFelice felt that, based on Judge Maruszczak's assurances, he would win his case.
- 41. Mr. DeFelice drafted a civil complaint against Infiniti of Ardmore that copied, with slight changes, the content of the sample complaint drafted by Judge Maruszczak.
- 42. Mr. DeFelice then filed the complaint at Magisterial District Court 38-1-07 on March 3, 2015, which was docketed at MDJ-38107-CV-22-2015.
- 43. On April 16, 2015, the date of trial, Mr. DeFelice picked up Judge Maruszczak and took him to Magisterial District Court 38-1-07.
- 44. When the two arrived at Magisterial District Court 38-1-07, Judge Maruszczak saw several individuals who he recognized.
- 45. After seeing these individuals, Judge Maruszczak left Mr. DeFelice's immediate company and spoke to those individuals, without Mr. DeFelice.

- 46. Upon returning to Mr. DeFelice, Judge Maruszczak told him that he changed his mind about going into the courtroom with him.
- 47. Judge Maruszczak said that he did not think it would "look good" if he went into court with Mr. DeFelice as they had discussed previously.
- 48. Mr. DeFelice then represented himself at trial.
- 49. Mr. DeFelice did not prevail in his suit against Infiniti of Ardmore.
- 50. Shortly after the trial, Mr. DeFelice spoke with Judge Maruszczak on the telephone.
- 51. Mr. DeFelice was greatly upset, and he told Judge Maruszczak that he was considering appealing the matter.
- 52. Judge Maruszczak offered to refer Mr. DeFelice to a friend who was an attorney to assist him in the appeal process.
- 53. Mr. DeFelice declined the offer of assistance.
- 54. Because Mr. DeFelice was politically connected in the area, Judge Maruszczak made a number of attempts to secure his assistance in the 2015 primary election.
- 55. In the months preceding the 2015 primary election, Judge Maruszczak left two notes in Mr. DeFelice's mailbox seeking assistance; one of these notes offered to help Mr. DeFelice with his "situation," meaning his appeal.
- 56. Mr. DeFelice did not respond to any of Judge Maruszczak's notes.
- 57. During the week before the primary election, Judge Maruszczak made numerous attempts by phone and in person to contact Mr. DeFelice.
- 58. Mr. DeFelice did not respond to Judge Maruszczak's contacts.
- 59. At some point during the run up to the primary election, Judge Maruszczak was informed that Mr. DeFelice was supporting his opponent by putting up yard signs and other activity.

- 60. On May 19, 2015, the date of the primary election, Judge Maruszczak travelled to the Upper Merion High School polling station to speak with Mr. DeFelice, who he suspected would be there.
- 61. Judge Maruszczak saw Mr. DeFelice at the polling station and approached him.
- 62. Judge Maruszczak yelled at Mr. DeFelice.
- 63. Judge Maruszczak called Mr. DeFelice a "Judas Iscariot."
- 64. Judge Maruszczak called Mr. DeFelice a "liar."
- 65. Judge Maruszczak claimed that Mr. DeFelice did the following things:
 - a. worked for his opponent; and
 - b. stole Judge Maruszczak's yard signs.

Carole Kenney

- 66. Carole Kenney is an Upper Merion Township Supervisor.
- 67. Judge Maruszczak and Mrs. Kenney first became acquainted after Judge Maruszczak had contacted her in her official capacity seeking assistance regarding a friend's troubles with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) over a flood insurance claim involving a flood plain.
- 68. Judge Maruszczak and Mrs. Kenney then saw each other around the area of Upper Merion Township at community gatherings; they were not personal friends, however.
- 69. On or about October 31, 2015, in the run up to the 2015 general election, Judge Maruszczak observed Mrs. Kenney canvassing neighborhoods in King of Prussia on behalf Judge Maruszczak's opponent, Ian Kingsley.
- 70. Judge Maruszczak confronted Mrs. Kenney and told her that he was surprised and disappointed that she was supporting Mr. Kingsley.

- 71. Mrs. Kenney told Judge Maruszczak words to the effect that her activity was not meant to be a personal affront, but, instead, she was taking part in her right to participate in the democratic process.
- 72. Judge Maruszczak responded with words to the effect that, if something bad happened to Mrs. Kenney in the future, she would know why.
- 73. Mrs. Kenney then asked Judge Maruszczak If he was threatening her, which he denied.
- 74. Judge Maruszczak also stated that he thought that he and Mrs. Kenney were friends because she had helped Judge Maruszczak with his friend's issue with FEMA.
- 75. Mrs. Kenney repeated that her support of Mr. Kingsley was not personal.
- 76. Mrs. Kenney then tried to end the conversation and walk away.
- 77. As Mrs. Kenney left, Judge Maruszczak expressed disbelief that she was supporting Judge Maruszczak's opponent and told her that there would be "payback" for her actions.

B. Failure to recuse from matters involving Jalil Bami

- Jalil Bami is the proprietor of Milanj Diamonds, located in the King of Prussia
 Mall.
- 79. Judge Maruszczak considers Mr. Bami a friend.
- 80. Judge Maruszczak attended at least two social gatherings in Mr. Bami's home.
- Mr. Bami contributed \$400.00 to Judge Maruszczak's re-election campaign in 2015.
- 82. In the summer of 2016, Judge Maruszczak was a guest in Mr. Bami's beach

- condominium in New Jersey.
- On August 26, 2016, Mr. Bami filed suit against Patricia Walton, his former fiancée, in Judge Maruszczak's court at *Jalil Bami v. Patricia Walton*, MJ-38109-CV-178-2016.
- 84. Despite their relationship, Judge Maruszczak did not recuse himself in the **Bami v. Walton** matter.
- 85. The Bami v. Walton matter settled on October 25, 2016.
- 86. Throughout 2015 through 2017, the following false alarm non-traffic citation cases were pending in Judge Maruszczak's court against Milanj Diamonds:
 - a. MJ-38109-NT-808-2015
 - b. MJ-38109-NT-809-2015
 - c. MJ-38109-NT-810-2015
 - d. MJ-38109-NT-811-2015
 - e. MJ-38109-NT-812-2015
 - f. MJ-38109-NT-926-2015
 - g. MJ-38109-NT-927-2015
 - h. MJ-38109-NT-928-2015
 - i. MJ-38109-NT-929-2015
 - j. MJ-38109-NT-930-2015
 - k. MJ-38109-NT-208-2016
 - I. MJ-38109-NT-209-2016
 - m. MJ-38109-NT-284-2016
 - n. MJ-38109-NT-445-2016

- o. MJ-38109-NT-610-2016
- p. MJ-38109-NT-611-2016
- q. MJ-38109-NT-612-2016
- r. MJ-38109-NT-613-2016
- s. MJ-38109-NT-614-2016
- t. MJ-38109-NT-615-2016
- u. MJ-38109-NT-676-2016
- v. MJ-38109-NT-677-2016
- w. MJ-38109-NT-678-2016
- x. MJ-38109-NT-766-2016
- y. MJ-38109-NT-767-2016
- z. MJ-38109-NT-768-2016
- 87. Despite their relationship, Judge Maruszczak did not recuse himself from presiding over the non-traffic cases set forth above at Paragraph 86 (a-z) until after having received the Board's August 15, 2017 Notice of Full Investigation.

C. CHARGES

COUNT 1 - Violation of Canon 4, Rule 4,2(A)(1)

- 88. By virtue of some or all of the conduct alleged above at Part A, Judge Maruszczak violated Canon 4, Rule 4.2(A)(1) of the RGSCMDJ.
- 89. Canon 4, Rule 4.2(A)(1) states the following:
 - CANON 4: A MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE [...] SHALL NOT ENGAGE IN POLITICAL OR CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY THAT IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE INDEPENDENCE, INTEGRITY, AND IMPARTIALITY OF THE JUDICIARY.

Rule 4.2. Political and Campaign Activities of Judicial Candidates in Public Elections.

- (A) A judicial candidate in a public election shall:
 - (1) act at all times in a manner consistent with the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary[.]
- 90. Judge Maruszczak's public confrontations with Mrs. Rogovin, Mr. DeFelice, and Mrs. Kenney constitute acts that were inconsistent with the integrity of the judiciary.
- 91. Specifically, by yelling at, insulting, or otherwise threatening these persons in public for their personal political activity, Judge Maruszczak's conduct fell far short of the standard of personal integrity expected of judges engaged in judicial elections in this Commonwealth.
- 92. As a result of some or all of the conduct set forth at Part A, Judge Maruszczak violated Canon 4, Rule 4.2(A)(1) of the RGSCMDJ.

COUNT 2 - Violation of Canon 1, Rule 1,2

- 93. By virtue of all or some of the conduct set forth in Part A, Judge Maruszczak violated Canon 1, Rule 1.2.
- 94. Canon 1, Rule 1.2 states the following:

CANON 1: A MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE SHALL UPHOLD AND PROMOTE THE INDEPENDENCE, INTEGRITY, AND IMPARTIALITY OF THE JUDICIARY, AND SHALL AVOID IMPROPRIETY AND THE APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY.

Rule 1.2. Promoting Confidence in the Judiciary.

A magisterial district judge shall act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary, and shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety.

- 95. Judge Maruszczak's public confrontations with Mrs. Rogovin, Mr. DeFelice, and Mrs. Kenney constitute acts that both failed to promote the integrity of the judiciary and constituted actual impropriety or, at the very least, the appearance of impropriety.
- 96. Specifically, by yelling at, insulting, or otherwise threatening these persons in public for their personal political activity, Judge Maruszczak's conduct fell far short of the standard of personal integrity expected of judges engaged in judicial elections in this Commonwealth.
- 97. Such conduct violates Canon 4, Rule 4.2(A)(1) and, therefore, constitutes actual impropriety.
- 98. Such conduct would, in reasonable minds, create a perception that Judge Maruszczak's conduct violated the RGSCMDJ and would reflect adversely on Judge Maruszczak's judicial temperament and, as such, constitutes the appearance of impropriety.

COUNT 3 - Violation of Canon 2, Rule 2.11(A)(1)

- 99. By virtue of all or some of the conduct set forth in Part B, Judge Maruszczak violated Canon 2, Rule 2.11(A)(1).
- 100. Canon 2, Rule 2.11(A)(1) states the following:

CANON 2: A MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE SHALL PERFORM THE DUTIES OF JUDICIAL OFFICE, IMPARTIALLY, COMPETENTLY, AND DILIGENTLY.

Rule 2.11. Disqualification.

(A) A magisterial district judge shall disqualify himself or herself in any proceeding in which the magisterial district judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned, including but not limited to the following circumstances:

- (1) The magisterial district judge has a personal bias or prejudice concerning a party or a party's lawyer, or personal knowledge of facts that are in dispute in the proceeding.
- 101. Due to his social relationship with Mr. Bami, which was characterized by Judge Maruszczak as a friendship, his receipt of a \$400.00 campaign contribution in 2015, and his use of Mr. Bami's beach house, Judge Maruszczak had an obligation to recuse himself from any case involving Mr. Bami in matters involving Mr. Bami filed in his court office because a reasonable person would question Judge Maruszczak's impartiality in those matters.
- 102. Judge Maruszczak failed to recuse himself from matters involving Mr. Bami that were filed in his court office and, as such, he violated Canon 2, Rule 2.11(A)(1).

COUNT 4 - Violation of Canon 1, Rule 1.1 (3 Counts)

- 103. By virtue of all or some of the conduct described above at Parts A and B, Judge Maruszczak violated Canon 1, Rule 1.1.
- 104. Canon 1, Rule 1.1 states the following:

CANON 1: A MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE SHALL UPHOLD AND PROMOTE THE INDEPENDENCE, INTEGRITY, AND IMPARTIALITY OF THE JUDICIARY.

Rule 1.1. Compliance with the Law.

A magisterial district judge shall comply with the law, including the [RGSCMDJ].

105. By virtue of his violation of Canon 4, Rule 4.2(A)(1) described above, Judge

Maruszczak has committed an automatic, derivative violation of Canon 1,

Rule 1.1 (Count 1).

- 106. By virtue of his violation of Canon 2, Rule 2.11(A)(1) described above, Judge Maruszczak has committed an automatic, derivative violation of Canon 1, Rule 1.1 (Count 2).
- 107. By virtue of his unauthorized practice of law through his assistance with drafting Mr. DeFelice's civil complaint described above at Paragraphs 27-36, Judge Maruszczak violated the law, specifically 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 2524 (regarding the unauthorized practice of law) (Count 3).

COUNT 5 - Violation of Article V, §17(b) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (4 Counts)

- 108. By virtue of all or some of the conduct set forth in Counts 1-4 above, Judge Maruszczak violated Article V, § 17(b) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 109. In pertinent part, Article V, § 17(b) provides:

Justices of the peace [magisterial district judges] shall be governed by rules or canons which shall be prescribed by the Supreme Court.

PA CONST. art. V, § 17(b).

- 110. A violation of the RGSCMDJ is an automatic, derivative violation of Article V, § 17(b).
- 111. Judge Maruszczak violated Canon 4, Rule 4.2(A)(1) (Count 1).
- 112. Judge Maruszczak violated Canon 1, Rule 1.2 (Count 2).
- 113. Judge Maruszczak violated Canon 2, Rule 2.11(A)(1) (Count 3).
- 114. Judge Maruszczak violated Canon 1, Rule 1.1 (Count 4).

115. As a direct result of his violation of all or some of the Rules set forth above, Judge Maruszczak violated Article V, § 17(b) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

COUNT 6 - Violation of Disrepute Clause of Article V, §18(d)(1) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

- 116. By virtue of all or some of the conduct set forth in Part A, Judge Maruszczak violated the Disrepute Clause of Article V, § 18(d)(1) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 117. In pertinent part, Article V, § 18(d)(1) provides:

A justice, judge, or justice of the peace may be suspended, removed from office or otherwise disciplined for . . . conduct which . . . brings the judicial office into disrepute, whether or not the conduct occurred while acting in a judicial capacity or is prohibited by law[.]

PA. CONST. art. V, § 18(d)(1).

- 118. As described above at Part A, Judge Maruszczak engaged in conduct so extreme that it brought disrepute upon the judicial office itself.
- 119. As a result of all or some of the conduct set forth above at Part A, Judge

 Maruszczak violated the Disrepute Clause of Article V, § 18(d)(1) of the

 Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

WHEREFORE, William I. Maruszczak, a Magisterial District Judge of Montgomery County Pennsylvania, is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Article V, § 18(d)(1).

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT A. GRACI Chief Counsel

DATE: February 27, 2018

JAMES P. KLEMAN, JR

Deputy Counsel

Pa. Supreme Court ID No. 87637

Judicial Conduct Board Pennsylvania Judicial Center 601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500 P.O. Box 62525 Harrisburg, PA 17106 (717) 234-7911

By:

By:

MELISSA L. NORTON Assistant Counsel

Pa. Supreme Court ID No. 46684

Judicial Conduct Board
Pennsylvania Judicial Center
601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500
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(717) 234-7911

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE:

William I. Maruszczak Magisterial District Judge

Magisterial District 38-1-09 1 JD 2018

38th Judicial District Montgomery County

VERIFICATION

We, James P. Kleman, Jr., Deputy Counsel, and Melissa L. Norton, Assistant Counsel, verify that the Judicial Conduct Board found probable cause to file the formal charges contained in this Board Complaint. We understand that the statements made in this Board Complaint are subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: February 27, 2018 By:

JAMÉS P. KLEMAN, JR.

Deputy Counsel

Pa. Supreme Court ID No. 87637

Judicial Conduct Board Pennsylvania Judicial Center

601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500

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By:

MELISSA L. NORTON

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Pa. Supreme Court ID No. 46684

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE:

William I. Maruszczak

Magisterial District Judge

Magisterial District 38-1-09 : 1 JD 2018

38th Judicial District

Montgomery County :

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

We certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the *Public Access*Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate

and Trial Courts that require filing confidential information and documents

differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Submitted by: Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania

Signature:

Signature:

Name: James P. Kleman, Jr.

Deputy Counsel

Attorney No.: 87637

Name: Melissa L. Nortor

Melissa L. Norton Assistant Counsel

Attorney No.: 46684

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE:

William I. Maruszczak

Magisterial District Judge

Magisterial District 38-1-09 : 1 JD 2018

38th Judicial District

Montgomery County :

PROOF OF SERVICE

In compliance with Rule 122(D) of the Court of Judicial Discipline Rules of Procedure, on February 27, 2018, a copy of this Board Complaint was sent by UPS Overnight Delivery to Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, Judge Maruszczak's counsel, who agreed to accept service on his behalf, at the following address:

Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire 103 South High Street P.O. Box 3231 West Chester, PA 19381-3231

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: February 27, 2018 By:

JAMES P. KLEMAN, JR!

Deputy Counsel

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