



Judicial Conduct Board
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
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Press Release

October 9, 2019

FROM: Richard W. Long
Chief Counsel

SUBJECT: Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania Elects Officers

HARRISBURG, PA -- At its regularly scheduled meeting held on October 7, 2019, the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania elected a new Chair and Vice-Chair. The Board unanimously elected Judge Elizabeth S. “Liesl” Beckley as Chair and Thomas J. Elliott, Esquire as Vice-Chair.

The Board acted to fill its vacant Chair, previously held by Judge P. Kevin Brobson who left the Board at the end of his term on August 31, 2019. Judge Beckley previously served as Vice-Chair. Mr. Elliott’s election filled the Vice-Chair vacancy created upon the election of Judge Beckley to the Chair. Mrs. Lisa Steindel continues as Secretary.

The twelve-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 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.

About Judge Elizabeth S. “Liesl” Beckley

The Supreme Court appointed Magisterial District Judge Elizabeth S. “Liesl” Beckley to the 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, 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 Thomas J. Elliott, Esquire

Mr. Elliott is a Senior Shareholder and Vice President of the Elliott Greenleaf law firm. He is a former member of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and is currently a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Committee on Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility. He is currently President of the Historical Society of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

A commercial litigator, he is active in the leadership of the Montgomery County Bar Association, where he served on its Board of Directors, chaired several committees, and was President of its Trial Lawyers Section. He was honored as the Montgomery County Trial Lawyer of the Year. His professional excellence and integrity was recently recognized by his selection as a member of the prestigious Litigation Counsel of America.

Mr. Elliott is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, the Supreme, Superior and Commonwealth Courts of Pennsylvania, the United States Courts of Appeal for the Second and Third Circuits, and all of the federal courts in Pennsylvania. Since 2004, he has been repeatedly recognized as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer.

A graduate of Georgetown University where he played varsity baseball, and from Georgetown University Law Center, Mr. Elliott served as a law clerk for Judge John B. Hannum of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. He and his wife Helen have three children, and reside in Blue Bell.

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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