



Judicial Conduct Board
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
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Press Release

July 12, 2016

TO: Press

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

**SUBJECT: Appointment of New Member to the
Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board**

The Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce that on June 20, 2016, the Supreme Court appointed Wilmarie González to the twelve-member Board. As specified in the Constitution, she will serve as a non-lawyer elector of the twelve-member Board.

The Judicial Conduct Board is an independent body of Pennsylvania citizens comprised of three judges, three lawyers and six non-lawyer, lay members. Half of the Board members are appointed 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.

Ms. González is the Director for the Bureau of Quality Management and Program Innovation of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Long-Term Living. She has held that position since August 2015. Her bureau is responsible for quality and performance measures for the statewide home- and community-based programs. She provides leadership for all performance improvement and quality assurance initiatives related to Office of Long-Term Living services, incorporating state of the art quality processes and measurements identified by the Centers for Medicaid Services.

Previously, Ms. González served for more than 10 years as Bureau Director and State Long-Term-Care Ombudsman at the Pennsylvania Department of Aging where she provided oversight in the statewide advocacy systems for the over 60 population on issues relating to elder abuse and protection and residents rights. Among the accomplishments of that program were the passing of digital fingerprinting which expedited submission and processing of FBI background checks for employment applicants and the creation of local Elder Abuse Task Forces or Multidisciplinary Teams designed to address, among other issues, financial exploitation of the aging population. In this post, Ms. González worked closely with federal and state officials on regulatory, legislative and policy issues impacting the aging population.

Ms. González has participated in judicial proceedings in the Commonwealth's Orphans Courts and the federal Bankruptcy Courts representing the interests of consumers receiving long-term care or persons living in facilities. She has extensive experience in the legal profession working in the areas of product liability, maritime law and litigation with a number of Philadelphia law firms. She has been involved with many organizations advocating for minorities and the elderly community and recently served as a member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Elder Law Task Force.

Ms. González received her M.S. in Management from Rosemont College, and B.S. in Organizational Management from Eastern University. She lives in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Her four-year term will run through June 20, 2020. The Constitution prohibits Board members from serving more than four consecutive years.

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 Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board, please visit the Board's Website at www.jcbpa.org.

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