



Judicial Conduct Board
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Melissa L. Norton, Chief Counsel
717-234-7911

Press Release

Friday, June 7, 2024

FROM: Melissa L. Norton
Chief Counsel

SUBJECT: Appointment of New Member to the Judicial Conduct Board

HARRISBURG, PA -- The Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce that Governor Josh Shapiro recently appointed Joseph M. Brown as a lay member to the twelve-member Board. His four-year term commenced on June 3, 2024.

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.

Detective Brown currently serves as a Detective in the Berks County Office of the District Attorney. He retired as a Sergeant from the West Reading Police Department, where he served for 28 years from 1991-2019. During his time with the West Reading Police Department, he also served as patrol officer, a criminal investigator, and ultimately, as patrol sergeant. Detective Brown is an experienced polygraph examiner. Additionally, he serves as President of Berks Lodge #71, Fraternal Order of Police; President of the Berks County Police Heroes Fund (founder); Treasurer of the Pennsylvania State Order of Police, which represents over 40,000 active and retired members of law enforcement across the Commonwealth; and serves on the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command (2018).

Detective Brown graduated from the Reading Police Academy in 1986. He went on to earn an Associate's Degree in Public Administration (2016) and an Associate's Degree in Law Enforcement Administration (1999) from Reading Area Community College. He is also a 2020 graduate of Alvernia University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. He then went on to earn his Masters in Public Administration, *summa cum laude*, from West Chester University in 2022. He is currently attending Rosemont College in pursuit of his Masters in Business Administration.

Detective Brown has received numerous awards and commendations, including Police Officer of the Year (1998), Medal of Honor, Combat Cross (2), Wound Award, Gallantry Star (3), Exceptional Duty Award, Federal Bureau of Investigation-Letter of Commendation, Reading

Bureau of Police-Letter of Commendation, and West Reading Police Department - Letter of Commendation. He is a member of the American Association Police Polygraphists.

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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