



**Judicial Conduct Board**  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Melissa L. Norton, Chief Counsel  
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## **Press Release**

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**Monday, August 17, 2026**

**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 the Supreme Court recently appointed Joel L. Frank, Esquire as an attorney member to the twelve-member Board. His four-year term commenced on August 16, 2026.

Mr. Frank is Chairman, Managing Partner and Executive Committee Chairman of Lamb McErlane PC. His areas of practice include commercial and civil litigation in state and federal courts, as well as attorney and judicial discipline matters. He often serves as an arbitrator and mediator. Mr. Frank is rated "AV Preeminent" by Martindale-Hubbell and has been named a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer every year since 2005. Prior to joining Lamb McErlane in 1997, he was a partner at a large Center City Philadelphia law firm.

Mr. Frank is heavily involved in the community and serves on several boards of directors, including the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Zoological Society of Philadelphia (Philadelphia Zoo) and the Holding Company and Bank Boards of Directors of Mid-Penn Bank. He is a long-serving Commissioner on the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission. Mr. Frank serves on the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia's Executive Committee and Board of Directors. He is on the Advisory Board for the Satell Institute and previously served on and chaired the National Board of Directors for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation.

Mr. Frank is the former General Counsel for the Republican Party of Pennsylvania and was the Solicitor for the Republican Committee of Chester County. He is also the Solicitor for the Chester County Police Chiefs Association.

Mr. Frank received his undergraduate degree from the University of Delaware in 1983 and his law degree from Widener University School of Law in 1986.

Mr. Frank was appointed to succeed President Judge Emeritus (ret) Susan Peikes Gantman. Judge Gantman's term expired August 15, 2026.

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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. The Board is comprised of three judges, three attorneys, and six non-lawyer electors, all of whom are Pennsylvania citizens. 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. 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](http://www.jcbpa.org).

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