



Press Release

October 17, 2011

TO: Media/Press

FROM: Judicial Conduct Board

**SUBJECT: 3 JD 2010, 1 JD 2011 Magisterial District Judge Maryesther S. Merlo,
District Court 31-1-02, Lehigh County**

Harrisburg. On Monday, October 17, 2011, following a sanction hearing, the Court of Judicial Discipline removed Magisterial District Judge Maryesther S. Merlo from her judicial office and barred her from forever holding any judicial office within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The sanction hearing follows the August 29, 2011 Order and Opinion of the Court, wherein the Court found that Former Judge Merlo violated the Rules Governing the Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by, among other things, her chronic absenteeism from court and tardiness for court.

Contact

Hank Abate, Chairman, Judicial Conduct Board
James E. McErlane, Esquire, Vice-Chair, Judicial Conduct Board
Joseph A. Massa, Jr., Chief Counsel
717-234-7911

Court of Judicial Discipline Order attached.

For more information about the Judicial Conduct Board, please visit the Board's website at www.jcbpa.org.

END

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE:

Maryesther S. Merlo
Magisterial District Judge
Magisterial District 31-1-02
Lehigh County

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: No. 3 JD 10
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: No. 1 JD 11
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REC. FILED
OFFICE OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE
LEHIGH COUNTY

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ORDER

AND NOW, this 17th day of October, 2011, it is ORDERED that Respondent, Maryesther S. Merlo, is hereby removed from her office as Judge of Magisterial District No. 31-1-02, and it is further ORDERED that said Respondent is hereafter prohibited from holding any judicial office in the Commonwealth.

PER CURIAM