



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD
601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500
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ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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PENNSYLVANIA JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500 ♦ P.O. Box 62525 ♦ Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0901
(717) 234-7911 ♦ www.jcbpa.org

May 2026

TO:

The Honorable Josh Shapiro
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
508 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

The Honorable Debra B. Todd
Chief Justice of Pennsylvania
One Oxford Centre, Suite 3130
301 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

The Honorable Kim L. Ward
President Pro Tempore
Senate of Pennsylvania
292 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-3039

The Honorable Joanna E. McClinton
Speaker of the House
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
139 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-2191

The Honorable Jay Costa
Minority Floor Leader
Senate of Pennsylvania
535 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3043

The Honorable Jesse Topper
Minority Leader
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
423 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2100

Pursuant to Article V, Section 18(a)(6) of the Pennsylvania Constitution, and Section 2104 of Title 42, Judiciary and Judicial Procedures, the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania respectfully submits this Annual Report covering the period from January 1 through December 31, 2025.

This Annual Report is available to the general public on the Board's website at <http://www.jcbpa.org>.

Respectfully submitted,



Melissa L. Norton
Chief Counsel

On Behalf of the Judicial Conduct Board

MISSION STATEMENT

The Judicial Conduct Board is an independent Board within the Judicial Branch mandated by the Pennsylvania Constitution to receive and investigate complaints of misconduct against judges of Pennsylvania's Unified Judicial System and, where appropriate, to file formal charges against, and prosecute, those judges found to have engaged in improper behavior.

The Board, through its staff, is required to investigate every allegation made against Pennsylvania state court judges. This procedure is an essential safeguard to the integrity of, and public confidence in, the judiciary and the judicial process. Judges are held to a high standard of conduct. This standard is set forth in the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as well as in the Code of Judicial Conduct and the Rules Governing the Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges.

The members and staff of the Judicial Conduct Board are committed to preserving the honor, dignity, independence, and integrity of Pennsylvania's judiciary. Race, color, age, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ancestry, religious creed, disability, political affiliation and the position or status of the complainant or judge are not considerations in reviewing cases. The Board's duties to the public require the honesty, intelligence, professionalism, and diligence of every Board and staff member.

The Board's objective is to enforce high standards of ethical conduct for judges, who, when serving in their adjudicatory function, must be free to act independently and in good faith on the merits, but who also must be held accountable to the public should they engage in misconduct.



OVERVIEW OF THE BOARD 2025 BOARD MEMBERS

JUDGE MEMBERS

Honorable Alice Beck Dubow*
(Term expiration 08/30/2027)

Honorable Risa Vetri Ferman*
Vice Chair of the Judicial Conduct Board
(Term expiration 03/19/2027)

Honorable William J. Kissner*
Secretary of the Judicial Conduct Board
(Term Expiration 03/13/2028)

ATTORNEY MEMBERS

Scott B. Cooper, Esquire
(Term expiration 07/29/2025)

Sudhir R. Patel, Esquire*
Chair of the Judicial Conduct Board
(Term expiration 02/07/2026)

Honorable Susan Peikes Gantman*
(Term expiration 08/15/2026)

Philip J. Seaver-Hall, Esquire*
(Term Expiration 12/04/2029)

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Marie Conley*
(Term Expiration 6/13/2027)

Tara Mobley
(Term Expiration 11/13/2026)

Janine F. Macklin*
(Term Expiration 05/13/2028)

William J. Joyce, Sr.*
(Term Expiration 06/19/2028)

Joseph M. Brown*
(Term Expiration 06/02/2028)

David P. McQuaid*
(Term Expiration 11/13/2026)

Reverend Dr. Alyn E. Waller*
(Term Expiration 11/06/2028)

BOARD STAFF

Melissa L Norton, Chief Counsel

James P. Kleman, Jr.
Deputy Chief Counsel

Elizabeth R. Donnelly
Deputy Counsel

Elizabeth A. Hoffheins
Deputy Counsel

Elizabeth B. Ruby
Deputy Counsel

Sarah E. Malek
Deputy Counsel

Paul A. Fontanes
Chief Investigator

Leo P. Zuvich
Investigator

Tammie L Kelley
Investigator

Brian A. Newhall
Investigator

Joelle E. Conshue
Legal Assistant

Pamela D. Scipioni
Legal Assistant

Susan Tyrone
Administrative Coordinator

Elizabeth A. Sickler
Administrative Assistant

Colleen M. McKinney
Administrative Assistant

* Current members as of December 31, 2025

OVERVIEW OF THE BOARD

AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD

The Judicial Conduct Board was created by an amendment to the Pennsylvania Constitution adopted on May 18, 1993, and declared in effect by the Governor on August 11, 1993. It is the independent board within the judicial branch of the Commonwealth's government responsible for investigating allegations of judicial misconduct or physical or mental disability.

The Board has jurisdiction over Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justices, Superior and Commonwealth Court Judges, Common Pleas Court Judges, Philadelphia Municipal Court Judges, and Magisterial District Judges. The Board has no jurisdiction over federal judges and magistrate judges, administrative hearing officers or administrative law judges for state agencies or mediators, arbitrators or masters.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

There are 12 members of the Board. Board Members serve staggered four-year terms. The Board comprises the following individuals:

- Six citizen members who are neither attorneys nor judges;
- Three attorneys who are not judges; and
- Three judges, one from each of the following court levels: an appellate court judge from either the Superior or Commonwealth Court; a common pleas court judge; and a magisterial district judge.

Members meet regularly to conduct Board business and receive no compensation for their service.

One of the critical features of the Board's system is its structural independence. The 12 board members are appointed by two appointing authorities: the Governor appoints six members and the Supreme Court appoints six members. The Governor appoints a common pleas court judge, two attorneys and three citizen members. The Supreme Court appoints a Superior or Commonwealth Court judge, a magisterial district judge, an attorney and three citizen members. Neither the Governor nor the Supreme Court controls a majority of the appointees to the Board. No more than half of the members may be registered in the same political party.

GOVERNING LAW

The Board is governed by Article V, Section 18(a) of the Pennsylvania Constitution, and Chapter 21, Subchapter A of Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the

Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes (available on website <https://www.jcbpa.org>). As an independent Board in the Judicial Branch having its own constitutional and statutory provisions regarding confidentiality of papers, records, and proceedings, the Board is not governed by the Open Meetings Act or the Pennsylvania Administrative Code.

DEFINING JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT

Judicial misconduct is conduct that, among other things, violates either the Pennsylvania Constitution, the Code of Judicial Conduct, or the Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges.

EXAMPLES OF JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT

The conduct forming the basis of a judicial misconduct complaint could arise from the judge's violation of the law or the rules promulgated by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Examples of judicial misconduct include: inappropriate courtroom demeanor such as yelling, profanity, gender bias, or racial slurs; improper ex parte communications with only one of the parties or attorneys in a case; a public comment regarding a pending case; or failure to recuse or disqualify in a case where the judge has an interest in the outcome of the case or in which the parties or attorneys are related to the judge. Judicial misconduct also arises from out-of-court activities such as driving under the influence or other criminal activity, improper financial or business dealings, sexual harassment or official oppression. Lastly, judicial misconduct could occur through a judge's failure to cooperate with respect to his or her obligations arising from a Board inquiry or for a judge's retaliating against a party or the party's attorney for cooperating in a Board inquiry.

Importantly, however, the Board cannot and does not act as a criminal investigation agency; it has no authority to arrest and imprison a judge. Likewise, the Board cannot intervene in a case pending before a judge and cannot reverse rulings of a judge (which is the role of the appellate courts) or reassign a case to another judge or remove or seek the recusal of a judge from a particular case.

SOURCES OF COMPLAINTS AND ALLEGATIONS

The Board has the duty to consider allegations from any source, including complaints from individuals, public news sources, or information received in the course of investigations that form the basis for new allegations. The Board also accepts and, where warranted, investigates, anonymous complaints.

OVERVIEW OF THE BOARD

BOARD LIMITATIONS

The Board does not have the authority to review the correctness of the legal decisions of any judge for any possible errors or to change the decision or ruling of any judge. For example, if the Board finds that a judge's actions constitute any form of misconduct, the Board can only file formal charges in the Court of Judicial Discipline and seek an appropriate sanction against the judge, which could include the judge's removal from the bench. However, even removal would not change the judge's ruling in the underlying case. Only an appellate court or the Pennsylvania Supreme Court acting in its supervisory capacity or exercising its so-called King's Bench authority can review and reverse a particular court decision.

Additionally, the Board cannot provide legal assistance or advice to a complainant. The Board cannot remove a judge from a case. The Board cannot award damages or provide monetary relief to complainants, get prisoners out of jail, or jail a judge who violates the criminal law.

BOARD INVESTIGATIONS AND ACTIONS

Cases are reviewed, analyzed, and investigated by the Board staff. The first step in an investigation involves a preliminary inquiry, which may include interviews with the complainant, attorneys and other witnesses, and the review of relevant documents. The Board then considers the results of the investigation in reviewing the complaint. The Board has several options available when deciding whether to take action on a case. At this stage, the Board is most likely to make one of two choices:

- Dismiss the complaint because it is clear that the allegations do not warrant disciplinary actions against the accused judge because no provisions of the Constitution, the Code

of Judicial Conduct or the Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges have been violated; or

- Authorize a full investigation to determine if there is evidence of misconduct.

After a full investigation is authorized and conducted, the Board will:

- Dismiss the complaint because there is no finding of probable cause to believe that judicial misconduct has occurred. Typically, the allegations resulting in a dismissal involve legal error, are time barred by the Board's four-year limitations period, or cannot be proven; or
- Issue a Letter of Caution to the judge under investigation where the conduct did not rise to a violation of the Code or Rules but the conduct may lead to judicial misconduct if not corrected or constituted only a minor violation that was recognized and rectified by the judge; or
- Issue a Letter of Counsel to the judge under investigation where the evidence suggests a violation of the Code or Rules, but was an isolated incident or the result of inadvertence; or
- File formal charges against the judge in the Court of Judicial Discipline following a determination by a majority of the Board that there is probable cause to believe that the judge engaged in misconduct.

The types of actions that could be taken by the Court of Judicial Discipline include dismissal of the complaint, public or private reprimand, public censure, fine, probation, suspension with or without pay, removal from the bench which carries with it forfeiture of judicial office, prohibition from future judicial service, or other discipline as authorized by the Constitution and warranted by the record. A detailed discussion of the Board's procedures for analyzing complaints and allegations and an overview of the complaint process is further discussed in the following table "Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania – Complaint Resolution Process." The number and types of action taken by the Board in calendar year 2025 are presented in the "Case Statistics" section of this report.



OVERVIEW OF THE BOARD

Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania – Complaint Resolution Process

INITIAL SCREENING	PRELIMINARY INQUIRY	FULL INVESTIGATION	FORMAL PROCEEDINGS	SUPREME COURT
<p>Chief Counsel reviews each Confidential Request for Investigation or “complaint” to determine whether it is within the jurisdiction of the Judicial Conduct Board (JCB).</p> <p>If matter is not within jurisdiction of JCB (e.g. complaint against attorney or federal judge), complaint may be forwarded to the appropriate agency, if known. Complainant is notified of non-jurisdiction.</p> <p>Chief Counsel reviews each complaint and assigns complaints to staff attorneys.</p> <p>Staff prepares electronic and paper-copy file, sends acknowledgment letters to complainants, and returns paper-copy file to Chief Counsel.</p>	<p>JCB attorney with or without an investigator conducts preliminary inquiry, writes preliminary investigation report, and recommends whether to dismiss or to proceed to full investigation as to some or all allegations.</p> <p>Staff distributes preliminary inquiry report and recommendation, along with pertinent materials, to JCB Members.</p> <p>JCB Members review preliminary investigation report and recommendation, and vote to dismiss*, to have staff conduct additional preliminary inquiry, or to proceed to full investigation as to some or all allegations.</p> <p>If matter is dismissed, complainant and judge are so notified.</p>	<p>Staff provides judge with nature and content of complaint and asks judge to respond in writing to identified allegations.</p> <p>Attorney and/or investigator conduct additional investigation, if necessary, as to issues raised in judge’s response.</p> <p>Attorney writes a report and recommendation.</p> <p>Staff distributes the report and recommendation, along with pertinent materials, to JCB Members.</p> <p>JCB Members review the report and recommendation, and vote to dismiss*, to have staff conduct additional investigation, or to file formal charges before the Court of Judicial Discipline.</p>	<p>Staff prepares formal complaint, files complaint with the Court of Judicial Discipline, and serves same upon judge. Matter becomes public upon filing.</p> <p>Judge may file written answer.</p> <p>Matter may be presented on stipulated facts or at adversarial hearing before Court of Judicial Discipline.</p> <p>After a public hearing, the Court of Judicial Discipline issues Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and will either dismiss or sustain the charges. If they are sustained, the Court of Judicial Discipline will schedule a hearing on sanctions which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reprimand; - Censure; - Fine; - Suspension (with or without pay); - Probation - Removal from office with permanent bar from judicial office 	<p>If the Court of Judicial Discipline dismisses the complaint against the judge, the JCB may appeal to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.</p> <p>If the Court of Judicial Discipline imposes discipline on the judge on any of the charges, the judge may appeal to the Supreme Court.</p>

*Dismissal may be a special dismissal letter, cautionary telephone call, Letter of Caution or Letter of Counsel. Probation may also be included.

OVERVIEW OF THE BOARD

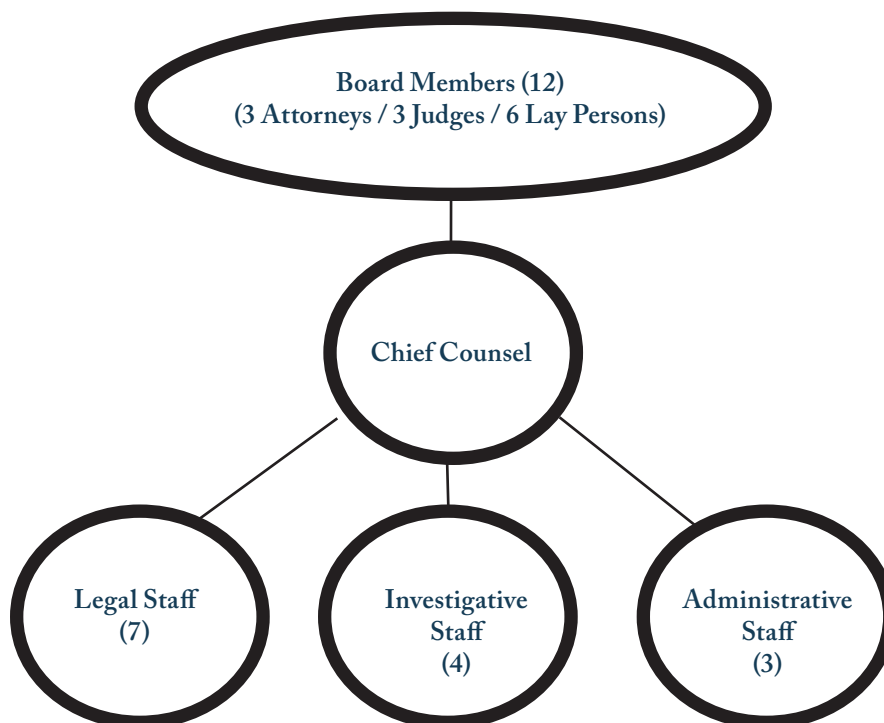
BOARD ORGANIZATION AND STAFF

In 2025 the Board had 15 staff positions, including the Chief Counsel, Deputy Chief Counsel, four Deputy Counsel, four investigators, and five support staff. All staff members are full-time employees of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Under the Constitution, the Board appoints a Chief Counsel who acts as Board executive director and whose general duties include managing and supervising the administrative activities of the Board's office, its attorneys, investigators, and support staff. The Chief Counsel's specific responsibilities include the following: providing legal advice to the Board; reviewing and processing complaints; developing statistics concerning Board activities; preparing the Board's annual budget; administering the funds of the Board; and keeping the Board informed of all developments potentially affecting the work of the Board.

The Board's legal staff, which consists of Chief Counsel, Deputy Chief Counsel, four Deputy Counsel, two legal assistants and four investigators, is responsible for the evaluation and investigation of complaints. The attorneys are primarily responsible for reviewing and evaluating complaints alleging judicial misconduct. The investigators conduct investigations in consultation with the assigned attorneys. The legal assistants perform various support services for staff counsel and investigators.

The Chief Counsel and the other attorneys serve as trial counsel during proceedings before the Court of Judicial Discipline and are responsible for preparing cases and presenting the evidence that supports the charges before the Court of Judicial Discipline as specified in the Constitution. When necessary, these attorneys also brief and argue appeals to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania (or the constitutional Special Tribunal if the matter on appeal involves a Supreme Court justice) from rulings of the Court of Judicial Discipline. The staff attorneys also respond to requests for information under the Right-to-Know Law and handle appeals arising from those requests.



OVERVIEW OF THE BOARD

BUDGET

The Judicial Conduct Board’s budget is included in the appropriation allotted to the Judicial Branch of the Commonwealth’s government. It is formulated and administered independently by the Board. For the 2025-2026 fiscal year (July 1, 2025 — June 30, 2026), the Board’s appropriation is \$2,555,000. This appropriation provides funding for salaries and benefits for the staff of the Judicial Conduct Board, as well as annuitant benefits, operational expenses and fixed assets.

2018–2022 BUDGETS *(In Thousands)*

<i>Fiscal Year*</i>	<i>Amount Appropriated</i>
2021-2022	\$2,505
2022-2033	\$2,555
2023-2024	\$2,555
2024-2025	\$2,555
2025-2026	\$2,555

The Judicial Conduct Board’s budget is approximately .5% (five tenths of one percent) of the overall budget of the Judicial Branch of the Commonwealth and .05 % (five one hundredths of one percent) of the budget of the Commonwealth.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

In 2025, the Board issued a number of press releases regarding cases pending in the Court of Judicial Discipline and noting important Board activities. Board members and staff regularly participate in educational seminars for a variety of groups.

BOARD WEBSITE

The Board’s website can be accessed at <https://www.jcbpa.org>. The website provides downloadable complaint forms. The website also offers answers to frequently asked questions regarding the Board, such as its composition, structure, and jurisdiction; the judicial misconduct complaint process; a description of the range of actions available to the Court of Judicial Discipline from dismissal to sanction; and links of interest to other websites dealing with judicial ethics.

Also included on the website are the Board’s governing authorities: Article V, Section 18 of the Pennsylvania Constitution; selected provisions from Title 42 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure, and the Board’s Rules of Procedure.

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS

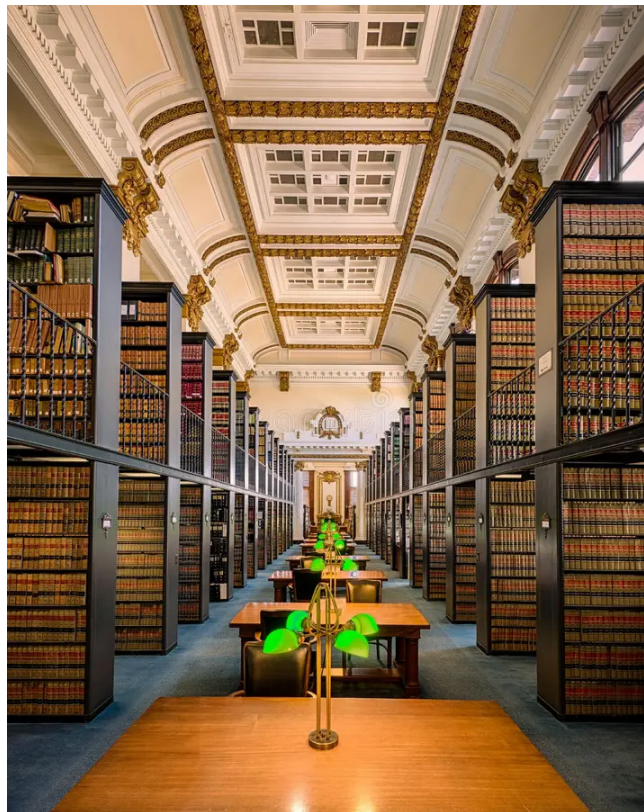
The availability of information and records maintained by the Board is governed by Article V, Section 18(a)(8) of the Pennsylvania Constitution which states: “[c]omplaints filed with the board or initiated by the board shall not be public information.” This section also provides that “statements, testimony, documents, records or other information or evidence acquired by the board in the conduct of an investigation” are not public information. Additionally, this constitutional mandate requires that “[a]ll proceedings of the board shall be confidential.” Rule 17 of the Board’s Rules of Procedure, adopted pursuant to the Board’s constitutional rule making authority, provides that “all information and proceedings relating to a complaint and records of the Board’s deliberations shall be confidential.” This constitutional provision and the Board’s Rules mandate the confidentiality of the fact that a complaint has been filed and is pending before the Board.

Pursuant to these provisions, Board meetings and proceedings are confidential and not open to the public. The confidentiality of the Board’s proceedings and the non-public nature of documents or information submitted to or gathered

OVERVIEW OF THE BOARD

by the Board are designed to protect complainants from retaliation by judges under investigation and to protect judges from the embarrassment resulting from the public release of unfounded allegations. These confidentiality requirements are subject to limited exceptions set forth in Article V, Section 18(a)(8) of the Constitution and Rules 14 and 18 of the Board's Rules of Procedure. They generally involve disclosure of the fact of an investigation if the investigation has become public knowledge by means independent of any action by the Board. They also allow certain disclosures to criminal law enforcement and professional disciplinary agencies if the information submitted to or obtained by the Board relates to violations of the criminal laws or rules of professional conduct. Disclosures are also allowed if the information would call for the exercise of the supervisory authority of the Supreme Court or a president judge.

Formal charges filed by the Board with the Court of Judicial Discipline are matters of public record. Hearings in the Court are public proceedings.



2025 STATISTICS

2025 STATISTICS

During 2025, the Board opened 1044 confidential requests for investigation. The Board filed formal charges in the Court of Judicial Discipline against two judges and filed one Petition for Interim Suspension Without Pay.

The Board closed 1074 pending matters in 2025. Not all cases are dismissed or otherwise acted upon in the year in which they are received by the Board. Of those, 366 were determined to be unfounded after preliminary inquiry and 602 presented claims of legal error and not misconduct. Another 48 were dismissed because the Board lacked jurisdiction over the official against whom the complaint was filed. The Board authorized the issuance of notices of full investigation in 30 matters. The Board dismissed 43 cases with Letters of Caution¹ and dismissed 13 cases with Letters of Counsel². Charges were filed against 2 judges in the Court of Judicial Discipline and the Board also filed 2 Petitions for Interim Suspension Without Pay in the Court of Judicial Discipline against 2 judges.

¹ A Letter of Caution is explained below under “Complaint Dispositions.”

² A Letter of Counsel is explained below under “Complaint Dispositions.”

INVESTIGATIVE INQUIRIES

LETTERS OF INQUIRY

The Board typically considers a Letter of Inquiry to be a less serious mode of inquiry to a judicial officer than a Notice of Full Investigation (described below). Letters of Inquiry are issued generally when the matter under investigation may constitute misconduct by the judge, but the conduct would not likely form the basis of a public Court of Judicial Discipline complaint. The scope of Letters of Inquiry may be broad, although their most common use concerns allegations of judicial delay. It is a less formal means of seeking information from a judicial officer concerning the alleged events or circumstances than a deposition or Notice of Full Investigation. Letters of Inquiry may be sent either formally pursuant to a Board directive or informally from staff counsel. During 2025, the Board and staff counsel issued 126 Letters of Inquiry to judicial officers.

After a Letter of Inquiry is issued, staff counsel may determine that subsequent interviews are required either to corroborate or refute the judicial officer’s written response. Information obtained through a Letter of Inquiry could lead to the issuance of a Notice of Full Investigation or a Board dismissal.

NOTICE OF FULL INVESTIGATION

If, after appropriate preliminary inquiry into a case, the Board determines that sufficient evidence of judicial misconduct exists such that the case may result in the filing of formal charges in the Court of Judicial Discipline, it will issue a Notice of Full Investigation to the judicial officer. This is required by the Constitution. Before the Board determines there is probable cause of misconduct, the judicial officer must be apprised of the nature and content of the complaint and given an opportunity to respond. After the Board issues the Notice of Full Investigation, the judicial officer has an opportunity to respond to the allegations in writing. A Notice of Full Investigation may address several matters under investigation involving the same judge. In 2025, the Board authorized 30 Notices of Full Investigation.

2025 STATISTICS

COMPLAINT DISPOSITIONS

DISMISSAL AFTER PRELIMINARY INQUIRY:

In 2025, 366 cases were dismissed after preliminary inquiry. These complaints involved facts that, even if true, would not constitute judicial misconduct. Investigation showed that either the allegations were unfounded or were not supported by sufficient facts or were not provable, or, when questioned, the judge gave an adequate explanation of the situation.

DISMISSAL AS STRICTLY LEGAL ERROR:

In 2025, 602 cases were dismissed as strictly legal error. These complaints generally deal with allegations of legal error and disagreements with judicial rulings. Also included in this category are complaints that are outside the Board's four-year limitation period.

DISMISSAL WITH A LETTER OF CAUTION:

The Board dismissed 43 cases with Letters of Caution in 2025. The Board issues Letters of Caution when the judicial officer's conduct constitutes an aberration or an oversight or other minor error in judicial comportment. The purpose of a Letter of Caution is to constitute a "wake-up call" or private warning about conduct that could lead to a finding of judicial misconduct if not corrected promptly by the judicial officer. The judicial officer is not required to sign or accept a Letter of Caution.

DISMISSAL WITH A LETTER OF COUNSEL:

The Board dismissed 13 cases with Letters of Counsel in 2025. Generally, the Board issues Letters of Counsel in cases where there is sufficient evidence of judicial misconduct to warrant the filing of formal charges in the Court of Judicial Discipline, but the evidence suggests that it was an isolated incident or first-time infraction by a judicial officer. The Letter of Counsel is a private reprimand and is subject to the judicial officer's acceptance. Evidence of genuine remorse on the part of a judicial officer is weighed heavily by the Board in its decision whether to issue a Letter of Counsel or to file formal charges. The conduct at issue in a Letter of Counsel (and the Letter of Counsel, itself) may be used as evidence against the judicial officer in a complaint before the Court of Judicial Discipline if the judicial officer is charged with a new violation.

DISMISSAL BASED ON LACK OF JURISDICTION:

Among the complaints filed with the Board, 48 complaints concerned individuals who did not fall within the Board's jurisdiction such as attorneys, federal judges, workers' compensation judges, other government officials and miscellaneous individuals. The Judicial Conduct Board staff responded to each of these complaints and, where appropriate, referred complainants to the disciplinary or other authority having jurisdiction or authority over the person who was the subject of the request for investigation.

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

PETITIONS FOR INTERIM SUSPENSION:

The Board may file petitions for interim suspension with the Court of Judicial Discipline. Such petitions are appropriate when the Board has filed formal charges against a judge in the Court of Judicial Discipline or when a judge has been charged with a felony. The Court may issue orders for interim suspension prior to a hearing and may do so with or without pay. These interim orders are not appealable as final orders. The Board filed 2 Petitions for Interim Suspension Without Pay in 2025.

2025 STATISTICS

SUMMARY OF COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE SANCTIONS IMPOSED DURING 2025

<u>JUDICIAL OFFICER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION OF MISCONDUCT</u>	<u>DATE AND SANCTION IMPOSED</u>
<p>Judge Scott DiCladuo 1 JD 2025</p>	<p>Board Complaint</p> <p>Violations of Code of Judicial Conduct Canon 1, Rule 1.2 Promoting Confidence in the Judiciary, Rule 1.3 Avoiding Abuse of Prestige of Judicial Office; Article V, § 17(b) of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, Article V, § 18(d)(1) of the Constitution of Pennsylvania</p>	
<p>Judge Scott DiClaudio 2 JD 2025</p>	<p>Board Complaint</p> <p>Violations of Code of Judicial Conduct Canon 1, Rule 1.1 Compliance with the Law, Rule 1.2 Promoting Confidence in the Judiciary; Canon 2, Rule 2.4 External Influences on Judicial Conduct, Rule 2.10 Judicial Statements on Pending and Impending Cases; Article V, § 17(b) of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, Article V, § 18(d)(1) of the Constitution of Pennsylvania</p> <p>Petition For Interim Suspension Without Pay</p>	<p>11/06/2025</p> <p>Order – Suspended Without Pay</p>
<p>Magisterial District Judge Jonathan M. Wilcox 3 JD 2025</p>	<p>Board Complaint</p> <p>Violations of Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges Canon 1, Rule 1.1 Compliance with the Law, Rule 1.2 Promoting Confidence in the Judiciary, Rule 1.3 Avoiding Abuse of the Prestige of Judicial Office; Canon 2, Rule 2.2 Impartiality and Fairness, Rule 2.5 Competence, Diligence and Cooperation, Rule 2.6 Ensuring the Right to be Heard, Rule 2.9 Ex parte Communications, Rule 2.16 Cooperation with Disciplinary Authorities; Article V, § 17(b) of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, Article V, § 18(d)(1) of the Constitution of Pennsylvania</p> <p>Petition For Interim Suspension Without Pay</p>	<p>11/06/2025</p> <p>Order – Suspended Without Pay</p>

2025 STATISTICS

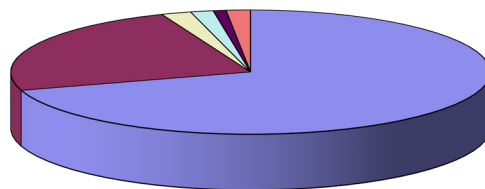
JUDICIAL COMPLEMENT

In 2025, there were 1,195 jurists within the Board's jurisdiction.

	Jurists	Senior Jurists
Supreme Court	7	0
Superior Court	15	3
Commonwealth Court	9	2
Common Pleas	468	87
Magisterial District Judges	501	74
Philadelphia Municipal Court	27	2
TOTAL	1,027	168

LEVEL OF JUDICIAL OFFICE

(Complaints received during 2025 calendar year)



- Common Pleas (733)
- MDJs (248)
- Supreme Court (21)
- Superior Court (16)
- Commonwealth Court (9)
- Phila. Municipal Court (17)

2025 STATISTICS

NON-PUBLIC PROCEEDINGS PRIVATE SANCTION SUMMARIES

As stated previously, upon conclusion of its investigation of a complaint, the Board may dismiss the matter with a letter to the judicial officer communicating the Board's concern or a warning to the judge not to engage in specified behavior. In 2024, the Board expressed concern or warning to judges about the following types of conduct:

1. **LETTERS OF COUNSEL** are issued by the Board as private admonitions in cases where there is sufficient evidence of judicial misconduct to file formal charges with the Court of Judicial Discipline, but mitigating or extenuating circumstances exist that weigh against the filing of formal charges. The Board's issuance of a Letter of Counsel is subject to a judge's acceptance and appearance before Chief Counsel of the Judicial Conduct Board. Examples of the type of conduct addressed by Letters of Counsel include the following:
 - Canon 1, Rules 1.1, 1.2, 1.3; Canon 3, Rules 3.1(C), 3.7(A); Canon 4, Rules 4.1(A)(3), 4.1(A)(11) – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - o A judge posted material to Facebook (inclusive of re-posts of other Facebook users' posts with additional commentary by the judge) that were directly or implicitly critical of certain candidates for election to federal office, some of which contained vulgarity. The judge also made certain posts that were supportive of the opposing candidate for election to federal office. The judge also posted material that constituted commentary on sports figures and sports journalists that, in some instances, contained vulgar references to these individuals.
 - Canon 1, Rules 1.1, 1.2; Canon 2, Rules 2.3 and 2.8 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - o A judge made sexually charged comments to multiple women employed by the court system, thus engaging in workplace harassment.
 - Canon 1, Rules 1.1 and 1.3 - Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - o A judge abused the prestige of his office when he affixed his official seal on his friend's daughter's trespass letter. Additionally, the judge failed to comply with the law when he notarized a previously signed document in the signer's absence.
 - Canon 1, Rule 1.1; Canon 2, Rules 2.6 and 2.8 – Rules Governing Standards of Conduct for Magisterial District Judges
 - o A judge failed to comply with the law when she dismissed a traffic citation without a hearing and modified bail without input from either party thereby denying the parties' right to be heard. Additionally, the judge engaged in *ex parte* communications with the affiant in a traffic matter. The judge also failed to immediately disqualify from her daughter's citation.
 - Canon 1, Rule 1.3 – Rules Governing Standards of Conduct for Magisterial District Judges
 - o A judge contacted another magisterial district judge on behalf of his friend's son to influence her decision in his summary case

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2. LETTERS OF CAUTION are issued as private warnings of potential judicial misconduct. Examples of the type of conduct addressed by Letters of Caution include the following:

- Canon 1, Rule 1.1 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge continued to contact his former law clerk in a harassing manner after being advised to cease communication.

- Canon 1, Rules 1.1, 1.2 and Canon 2, Rule 2.6 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge violated the law by improperly revoking a criminal defendant’s bail without stating reasons on the record or in writing and without a hearing.

- Canon 1, Rule 1.1; Canon 2, Rules 2.5, 2.8, 2.16 - Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge rushed off the bench towards a litigant, grabbed and yelled at the litigant for approximately 30 seconds. Additionally, the judge displayed an escalating pattern of anger issues with other court departments. When self-reporting the conduct to the Judicial Conduct Board, the judge withheld the fact that he had grabbed the litigant.

- Canon 1, Rule 1.1; Canon 2, Rules 2.6 and 2.8 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge failed to ensure a litigant’s full right to be heard by disallowing the use of the court-certified interpreter during a Protection from Abuse (PFA) contempt hearing in violation of the Judicial System Language Use Policy. Additionally, the judge displayed improper demeanor towards a litigant’s attorney when he admonished her several times for taking too long to present her case.

- Canon 1, Rule 1.1; Canon 4, Rule 4.1(A)(3), – Rules Governing Standards of Conduct for Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge made posts to Facebook that stated, or strongly implied to the point of direct statement, the judge’s opposition to a non-judicial candidate for elective office. The judge removed the offending posts after being contacted by the Board during the investigation.

- Canon 1, Rule 1.2 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge engaged in idle gossip with a third-party county employee regarding the judge’s views of a lawyer who appeared before the judge regularly.

- Canon 1, Rule 1.2 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge stated during a criminal guilty plea that he had been friends with the defendant’s father a long time.

- Canon 1, Rule 1.2 - Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge created the appearance that the judge was not impartial by making comments about litigants such as, the litigants come from “good stock” and/or a “good family.”

- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 2, Rules 2.5 and 2.12 - Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - Over the course of several years, a judicial employee misappropriated court funds. During this time period, the employee was the only person handling finances in the judge’s office, despite the judge having received guidance from the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts regarding financial best practices.

2025 STATISTICS

- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 2, Rules 2.6 and 2.8 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge called an ADA into the judge’s courtroom for a special listing in order to criticize the ADA’s work on a recent PCRA. During this listing the judge exhibited poor demeanor and often interrupted or spoke over the ADA, infringing upon the ADA’s right to be heard.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 2, Rule 2.6 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge was cautioned for intemperate remarks to two criminal defendants, which gave the impression that he was not wholly impartial. Further, he was cautioned for failing to allow argument from one such defendant.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 2, Rules 2.6 and, 2.8 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge used coarse language and insulted the parents of a dependent child during several hearings, in violation of the rules regarding demeanor and impartiality. Additionally, the judge denigrated the legal system on multiple occasions, thus failing to promote confidence in the judiciary.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.2, Canon 2 Rule 2.8 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge responded in an inappropriate manner to an inmate’s letter by advising the inmate to “get a life,” through written correspondence.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 2, Rule 2.8 - Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge demonstrated inappropriate demeanor, in that the judge was impatient with litigants, made snide remarks, and asked rhetorical questions.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 2, Rule 2.8 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge was cautioned for the use of inappropriate and overly descriptive slang terms during a juvenile hearing and blurring the line between mentor and neutral arbiter, leading to an appearance of impropriety.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 2, Rule 2.9 - Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge was cautioned for giving a defendant legal advice during a landlord-tenant hearing, investigating disputed facts independently, and failing to share *ex parte* communications received from one side with the adverse party, as required.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 2, Rule 2.11(A) – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge failed to disqualify from litigation involving an entity with which the judge had a significant business relationship over a course of years. The judge’s decision to participate in the business entity’s cases, over the business entity’s requests for the judge’s recusal, also raised the appearance of impropriety.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 3, Rule 3.10 - Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge engaged in a private text conversation and provided legal advice to a friend of the judge, who was a litigant in a divorce matter before another judge.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 3, Rule 3.10(E) – Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge, who is also a practicing attorney, created the appearance of impropriety and ran afoul of Canon 3, Rule 3.10(E) by undertaking representation of a civil client shortly after presiding over a criminal matter related factually and temporally to the client’s civil case.

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- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 3, Rules 3.13 and 3.15 - Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge accepted tickets to a professional sporting event from an attorney who regularly appears before the judge, as court appointed counsel. The judge failed to report the gift.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.2; Canon 4, Rules 4.1(A)(8), 4.2(A)(1) and 4.2(C) – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge’s statements to a panel of prospective jurors during a “Jury Welcome” ceremony strongly implied a “self-endorsement” and request for a vote for the judge in the upcoming election.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.3 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge improperly listed his judicial chambers as his official address on his Pennsylvania Driver’s License.
- Canon 1, Rule 1.3 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge called an attorney’s doctor’s office and threatened to send the sheriff to change the attorney’s doctor’s appointment.
- Canon 2, Rule 2.2 – The Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge failed to uphold and apply the law when she failed to award plaintiff court costs as required under 246 Pa. Code Rules 319 and 322.
- Canon 2, Rule 2.2– Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge improperly applied the law in favor of tenants in landlord tenant cases. The judge was previously reprimanded regarding identical behavior in 2023.
- Canon 2, Rules 2.2 and 2.8 – The Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge displayed improper demeanor and made derogatory comments regarding the defendant’s ethnicity during a preliminary hearing.
- Canon 2, Rules 2.2, 2.9 and 2.11 – The Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge failed to uphold the law when she exceeded her authority and granted a suppression motion. The judge also engaged in a telephone conversation with the affiant of a criminal case filed with her office. Additionally, the judge failed to disqualify from a matter that was refiled after she initially dismissed the case.
- Canon 2, Rule 2.5 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge delayed issuing their ruling in a custody matter for more than twelve months.
- Canon 2, Rules 2.5, 2.6, 2.12 and 2.16 - Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - Despite a fax number appearing on a judge’s letterhead, the court did not have an operable fax, which caused the judge to miss a written request from a litigant and the Judicial Conduct Board. The judge knew the fax machine did not work but did not take any action to resolve the issue. Additionally, the judge did not properly supervise his staff or train them to interact with the public in a professional manner.
- Canon 2, Rules 2.5(A) and Rule 2.12(A) – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge failed to timely assess damages in a default judgment case, and also failed to report the delay in

2025 STATISTICS

disposition in the matter as required by Rule 703 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Judicial Administration. This delay was partially due to the judge's law clerk's inability to adhere to proper performance and timeliness standards. Thus, the delay was also attributable to the judge's failure to properly manage their personal staff.

- Canon 2, Rule 2.6 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge granted a hospital's petition to have an individual deemed incapacitated and appointed a *guardian ad litem* without allowing the individual an opportunity to be heard on the petition.
- Canon 2, Rule 2.6 – Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge was cautioned for conducting a bail hearing for a defendant without notice or an opportunity to be heard from the Commonwealth.
- Canon 2, Rules 2.6, 2.8 and 2.12 – Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge denied a criminal defendant's request for a continuance to secure a court certified interpreter and instead allowed a member of their staff to translate the defendant's preliminary hearing. The staff member did not properly translate the testimony and behaved in an inappropriate manner during the proceedings.
- Canon 2, Rule 2.8 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge displayed improper demeanor when he referred to the parents in a dependency hearing as "crappy parents."
- Canon 2, Rule 2.8 – Code of Judicial Conduct
 - A judge displayed improper demeanor towards litigants.
- Canon 2, Rule 2.9 – Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge was cautioned for communicating with only one parent of a juvenile, when the parents were divorced but shared legal custody of said juvenile.
- Canon 3, Rule 3.10 (E) – Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges
 - A judge violated the rules when he appeared in his capacity as an attorney on behalf of a criminal defendant before a fellow magisterial district judge.

The Canons of the Code of Judicial Conduct and the Rules Governing Standards of Conduct for Magisterial District Judges and the concomitant Rules and Comments related thereto, may be found on the Board's website, [www.https://jcbpa.org](https://jcbpa.org) "Governing Law" tab.



NATIONWIDE



The nationwide statistics of judicial discipline are outlined below.*

In 2025, there were approximately 121 public dispositions in state judicial disciplinary proceedings

In 2025:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 judges were removed from office.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 26 judges resigned and agreed never to serve in judicial office again. 2 of these judges were also censured. 2 of the judges agreed to resign and were permanently banned from office.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18 judges were suspended without pay from 7 days to 18 months.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 67 judges or former judges in approximately 15 cases received public reproofs. In 5 of these reproofs, the judges were also ordered to have training, counseling or mentoring.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 judge was ordered to cease and desist specified conduct.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 former judges were sanctioned in attorney discipline proceedings for conduct while they were judges; 1 was publicly reprimanded and 1 was publicly admonished.

*Statistics from the National Center for State Courts, Judicial Conduct Reporter, Winter 2026.

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD MEMBERS' BIOGRAPHIES



JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD MEMBERS' BIOGRAPHIES

SUDHIR R. PATEL, ESQUIRE, Chair (July 30, 2025 – December 31, 2025); **Vice Chair** (March 14, 2024 – July 29, 2025) **Chair of Personnel Committee** (February 14, 2023 – March 13, 2024); Lehigh University (B.A.), Villanova University School of Law (J.D.); Partner at Fanelli, Evans & Patel, P.C.; areas of practice include personal injury, medical malpractice, construction litigation and criminal defense; member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum; served as President of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice (PAJ), long-standing member of the PAJ's Board of Governors as well as its Executive Committee; member of the American Association for Justice (AAJ), active member and past President of the Schuylkill County Bar Association; speaker at numerous continuous legal education seminars, frequent lecturer on issues ranging from social media to personal injury/medical malpractice damages and developing a profitable law practice; serves as a Mediator, both privately and through the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania's Mediation Program; active in his community; appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania as an attorney member on February 8, 2022.

HONORABLE RISA VETRI FERMAN, Vice Chair (July 30, 2025 – December 31, 2025); **Secretary** (June 12, 2023 – July 29, 2025); University of Pennsylvania (B.A., 1987); Widener University School of Law (J.D., 1992); worked in the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office as a courtroom prosecutor, specializing in homicide, child abuse, sexual assault, and domestic violence cases; appointed as First Assistant District Attorney before

being elected as the District Attorney in Montgomery County; served two terms as the Montgomery County District Attorney; elected Judge Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas, 2015, retained 2025; served as Administrative Judge of the Juvenile Division; currently serves in the Criminal Division; as an attorney, she co-founded two nonprofit charities to protect and support abused children, Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center and the Montgomery Child Advocacy Project; authored two children's books; received the following awards: Children's Champion 2015, PA State Chapter of Child Advocacy Centers and Multi-Disciplinary Teams, 2015 MCAP Salute to Heroes; 2015 Mission Kids Honoree, 2015 Montgomery County Black Law Enforcement Officers Association Lifetime Achievement; 2015 Martin Luther King Community Service Award for "Back On Track" Youth Mentoring Program, 2015 Honoree Children's Crisis Treatment Center, 2014 Girl Scouts "Take The Lead" Award; 2013 Aspen Institute's Aspen-Rodel Fellowship in Public Leadership; 2012 L'Oreal Paris USA National Honoree/Women of Worth; 2012 Alan Lerner Child Advocacy Award-Field Center at the University of Pennsylvania, the 2010 National Children's Advocacy Center Award, and the 2003 Montgomery Bar Association Louis D. Stefan Law Enforcement Award; appointed on March 20, 2023 as a judge member by the Governor of Pennsylvania to fill an unexpired term on the Board.

HON. WILLIAM J. KISSNER Secretary (July 30, 2025 – December 31, 2025); Lehigh Carbon Community College (A.A., Criminal

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD MEMBERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Justice); Kutztown University (B.S., Criminal Justice); elected as a magisterial district judge for magisterial district 56-3-02 in Carbon County in 2011 and re-elected in 2017 and 2023; served as a police officer for the City of Bethlehem, 1991-2011; member and past-president of the special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania; serves on multiple Carbon County committees, including the Criminal Justice Advisory Board, Court Processing, Law Enforcement Treatment Initiative and Re-Entry Coalition; member of Lehigh Lodge No. 621 F&AM of PA and holds his 32nd Degree from the Valley of Allentown A.A.S.R.M.; member of the Franklin Township Fire Company and Palmerton Historical Society, Kibler School and Lehigh River Stocking Association; board member for the Bo Tkach Foundation which creates awareness for mental health issues among our youth; appointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as the magisterial district judge member on March 14, 2024.

HONORABLE SUSAN PEIKES GANTMAN, PRESIDENT JUDGE EMERITUS, Chair of Budget Committee (February 14, 2023 – December 31, 2025); University of Pennsylvania (B.A. cum laude, M.A., 1974); Villanova University School of Law (J.D., 1977); former senior member and Co-Chair of the Family Law Section at Cozen O'Connor in West Conshohocken, PA from 1998 – 2003; former partner and Chair of the Domestic Relations Section at the West Conshohocken, PA law firm of Sherr Joffe & Zuckerman, P.C; served as the solicitor for the Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth and Montgomery County Housing and

Community Development; former Assistant District Attorney for Montgomery County; former Law Clerk for the Honorable Richard S. Lowe of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas; her election to a ten-year term on the Superior Court was confirmed in January 2004, and she won retention in 2013; elected by her peers as President Judge of the Superior Court from January 7, 2014 to January 6, 2019. On April 1, 2020 Judge Gantman took senior status on the Court; retired December 2021; member of the Pennsylvania and Montgomery County Bar Associations; former Chair of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania's Records Management Committee; received numerous recognitions, is a frequent lecturer and is involved in community service; appointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as an attorney member on August 16, 2022.

MARIE CONLEY, Chair of Personnel Committee (March 14, 2024 – December 31, 2025); Bloomsburg University (B.A.), Certificate in Organizational Leadership from Villanova University and a Gallup-Certified CliftonStrengths® Coach; Consultant focusing on stakeholder and team development, event and project orchestration, and engagement and strategic communications for a variety of clients through her company, Conley Consulting, LLC; granted Governor Emerita status by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education; guest speaker and panelist on leadership development, stakeholder engagement and patient advocacy; founded The Conley Cushing's Disease Fund which raises money to educate medical professionals on early diagnosis of Cushing's and to support and coordinate a

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD MEMBERS' BIOGRAPHIES

community of Cushing's patients and their families; instrumental in the passage of legislation creating the PA Rare Disease Advisory Council in 2017 and was appointed by the Governor and legislature to serve on its board; In October 2019, she was nominated and elected as Chair; sits on the Board of the Cushing's Support and Research Foundation, the national organization for advocacy for Cushing's disease; in 2023, she was recognized for her years of work on behalf of her clients and advocacy for rare disease patients as a Women of Excellence by the YWCA Greater Harrisburg; reappointed as a lay member by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for the balance of a four-year term that expires on June 13, 2027.

JOSEPH M. BROWN; Alvernia University (B.A., Criminal Justice, 2020); Masters in Public Administration, summa cum laude, from West Chester University (2022); Master in Business Administration at Rosemont College (2025); Regional Security Investigator for Tower Health; former Detective, Berks County Office of the District Attorney; retired as Sergeant with West Reading Police Department (1991-2019); while at West Reading, served as patrol officer, criminal investigator and ultimately, patrol sergeant; experienced polygraph examiner; serves as President Berks Lodge #71, Fraternal Order of Police; serves as President Berks County Police Heroes Fund (founder); serves as Treasurer of Pennsylvania State Order of Police, which represents over 40,000 active and retired members of law enforcement across the Commonwealth; Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command (2018); Reading Area Community College, Associates Degree in Public Administration (2016),

Associates Degree in Law Enforcement Administration (1999); Reading Police Academy (1986); Awards and Commendations: 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; Member of the American Association Police Polygraphists; appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania as a lay member on June 3, 2024.

HONORABLE ALICE BECK DUBOW; University of Pennsylvania (B.A. cum laude, 1981); University of Pennsylvania School of Law (J.D., 1984); former judicial law clerk for the Honorable Edward G. Biester; practiced law for 23 years in a variety of areas; former associate at Duane, Morris & Heckscher and Fineman & Bach, P.C.; former Of Counsel at Wolf, Block, Schorr & Solis Cohen; former Deputy General Counsel of Drexel University; former Divisional Deputy City Solicitor for the City of Philadelphia; Judge, Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, 2007-2015; elected Judge, Superior Court, 2015, retained 2025; award the "Justice, Justice, You Shall Pursue Award," by the Brandeis Society; awarded the Howard Lesnick Pro Bono Award by the University of Pennsylvania Law School; recognized for her dedicated services by the Lawyers' Club of Philadelphia; serves or has served on numerous non-profit Board of Trustees, including the Stoneleigh Foundation, Carson Valley Children's Aid, the Beck Institute, the Opera Company of Philadelphia and Congregation Or Ami; member of Pennsylvania

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD MEMBERS' BIOGRAPHIES

and Philadelphia Bar Associations, American Law Institute, Juvenile Court Rules and Procedural Committee, and Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency; appointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as a judge member on August 31, 2023.

WILLIAM J. JOYCE, SR.; Culinary Institute of America, NY (A.A.S., Hotel and Restaurant Management); Vice President of Joyce Insurance Group; serves on the boards of the Fidelity Bank in Dunmore, Avoca Basketball League in Avoca, Broadway Theatre League of NEPA in Scranton, Catholic Social Services in Wilkes-Barre, Miles for Michael Foundation in Pittston, St. John's Care and Concern Clinic in Pittston, and Pennsylvania Lawyer's Fund for Client Security in Harrisburg; appointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as a lay member on June 20, 2024.

JANINE F. MACKLIN; Geneva College (B.S., Human Resource Management and M.S., Organizational Leadership); Associate Director of Government Affairs for Duquesne University's Office of Civic Engagement and External Relations; served as the Director of Federal Programs and Partnerships for an established charter school; Chief Operating Officer for a mid-sized youth workforce development agency; Faculty Clinical Instructor for the University of Pittsburgh's partnership with the State System of Higher Education (SSHE) and Pittsburgh Public Schools pertaining to the coordination of the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant; served on two gubernatorial transition teams: Governor-elect Shapiro's Transition Team for Higher

Education and Governor-elect Wolf's Education Transition Team; appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania as a lay member on June 4, 2024.

REVEREND DR. ALYN E. WALLER; Ohio University (B.M., Music Business); Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div.); Palmer Theological Seminary (D.Min., Ministry to Marriage and Family); Senior Pastor of Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church in Northwest Philadelphia; revivalist, vocalist, lecturer and social activist; created the Young Abrahams, a ministry that pairs young boys, ages 7-12, with men who provide assistance with academics, social skills and guidance that will help them to build a firm foundation for the future; appointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as a lay member on November 7, 2024.

DAVID P. MCQUAID, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Allied Health (B.S.); The University of New Hampshire (M.B.A.); seasoned healthcare executive, licensed pharmacist and advisor known for leading major academic medical centers and health-system enterprises through growth, transformation, and operational excellence. Founder of Turnaround Performance Solutions, LLC; Life Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives; served on the boards of numerous community agencies and professional organizations; appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania as a lay member on December 4, 2025.

PHILIP SEAVER - HALL, ESQUIRE, Pennsylvania State University's Dickinson School of Law (J.D.); Associate Attorney at the

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD MEMBERS' BIOGRAPHIES

law firm of Knox McLaughlin Cornall & Sennett focusing his practice on appellate, constitutional, commercial and civil-rights litigation; Member of the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression Legal Network; Adjunct Professor Law at Pennsylvania State University's Dickinson School of Law; accomplished classical musician who worked with Grammy and Juno Award-winning musicians; performed in concerts throughout the United States, including Carnegie Hall, Canada and Italy; appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania as an attorney member on December 5, 2025.

SCOTT B. COOPER, ESQUIRE, Chair (June 12, 2023 – July 29, 2025); Secretary (December 5, 2022 – June 11, 2023); University of Albany (B.A.), Widener University School of Law (J.D.); Partner at Schmidt Kramer P.C., specializes in personal injury law with an emphasis on motor vehicle accident and insurance cases; member and past-president of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice (PAJ); member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and member of the Dauphin County Bar Association; serves on the Board of Directors of the Joe Allegrini Children's Hero Fund; served on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania's Civil Procedure Rules Committee and the Supreme Court's Appellate Rules Committee; he served as co-chair for then Governor-Elect Tom Wolf's transition team committee for the Department of the Commonwealth/State and has been appointed as a Hearing Officer with the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania; is a frequent lecturer and author; active in the community through his involvement

with the Harrisburg Jewish Community Center and as an Adjunct Professor at Widener University Commonwealth Law School, Harrisburg; Judicial Conduct Board Member from July 2021 – July 2025.

TARA MOBLEY; St. Petersburg College (B.S., Business Management); Capella University (M.B.A., Operations and Human Resource Management); Wharton Executive Education (Competitive and Corporate Strategy); served as Chief Executive Officer of Knox Law; former Chief Operating Officer of Knox Law; has extensive experience in financial, human resources, and operations management in banking, manufacturing, technology, and public accounting firms; served as the Vice President of Operations at Crosstree Capital, a global leader in health science M&A; served on the Product and Service Review Committee for the Association of Legal Administrators, a non-profit 501(c)(6) organization; currently sits on the Executive Committee and Prevention Committee for The Bradley H. Foulk Children's Advocacy Center of Erie County and also serves as its Treasurer; speaker at Women in Business and EmpowerHer Summit in March 2024; Judicial Conduct Board Member from November 2022 – August 2025.

CONFIDENTIAL REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Please type or print. If you wish to provide documents to support your allegations, please attach copies of those documents. We cannot return documents. The Board's jurisdiction extends only to Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justices, Superior and Commonwealth Court Judges, Common Pleas Court Judges, Philadelphia Municipal and Magisterial District Judges. Once completed, you must sign and return this form to the address above.

NOTICE: The Judicial Conduct Board has no authority to change a Judge's decisions or rulings. Our jurisdiction extends only to conduct that violates the Code of Judicial Conduct or the Rules Governing Standards of Conduct of Magisterial District Judges, which may be found at our website at www.jcbpa.org.

Your Information:

Name:			Email Address:		
Address:			Telephone: () ()		

Judicial Officer's Information:

Name:	Type of Judicial Officer: <input type="checkbox"/> Magisterial District Judge <input type="checkbox"/> Judge
County:	

Case Information: (If misconduct allegations relate to Court Proceedings.) **Case Has Been Appealed**

Case Name:	Case Docket Number:
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Your Attorney:	Opposing Attorney:	Witness:
Name:	Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:	Address:
Phone:	Phone:	Phone:

I certify that I have read the information concerning the Judicial Conduct Board's function, jurisdiction, and procedures included in the accompanying brochure. I further swear (or affirm) that the above information is true and accurate. The statements in this complaint are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.)

Date: _____ **Your Signature** _____

Please explain your complaint on the reverse of this form.

**Please use this page to explain your complaint, providing as much detail as possible.
Attach additional pages if needed.**

Please note, it is not required that you present your grievance to the Board in person. Personal interviews are not required and are not usually necessary for our preliminary review, investigation, and understanding of grievances. If we need further information relative to your grievances, you will be contacted by phone, letter or email.

(BACK SIDE OF REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATION)



JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

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Suite 3500

P.O. Box 62525

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0901

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