

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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In the Matter of the Proceeding  
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4,  
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

JOSEPH THAXTON,

a Justice of the Spring Valley Village  
Court, Rockland County.

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DECISION  
AND  
ORDER

BEFORE:

Lawrence S. Goldman, Esq., Chair  
Stephen R. Coffey, Esq.  
Richard D. Emery, Esq.  
Raoul Lionel Felder, Esq.  
Honorable Thomas A. Klonick  
Honorable Daniel F. Luciano  
Honorable Karen K. Peters  
Alan J. Pope, Esq.  
Honorable Terry Jane Ruderman

APPEARANCES:

Robert H. Tembeckjian and Alan W. Friedberg for the Commission

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP (by Ariane D. Austin) for  
Respondent

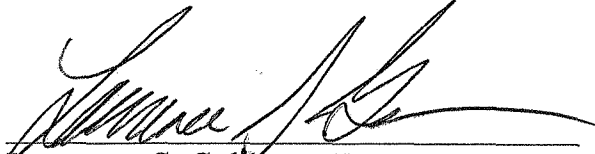
The matter having come before the Commission on April 21, 2005; and the  
Commission having before it the Formal Written Complaint dated October 29, 2004,

respondent's Verified Answer dated December 8, 2004, and the Stipulation dated April 6, 2005; and the Commission, by order dated December 9, 2004, having designated Robert L. Ellis, Esq., as referee to hear and report proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law; and a hearing having been scheduled to commence on April 11, 2005; and respondent having resigned from judicial office by letter dated April 5, 2005, effective June 6, 2005, and having affirmed that he will neither seek nor accept judicial office at any time in the future; and respondent having waived confidentiality as provided by Judiciary Law §45 to the limited extent that the Stipulation will be made public if accepted by the Commission; now, therefore, it is

DETERMINED, on the Commission's own motion, that the pending proceeding be discontinued and the case closed pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation; and it is

SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 22, 2005

  
Lawrence S. Goldman, Esq.  
Chair  
New York State  
Commission on Judicial Conduct