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## **NEWS ALERT**

***FOR RELEASE AUGUST 18, 2008***

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Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator and Counsel to the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct, is flatly contradicting a published report in the Glens Falls *Post Star* that Commission staff made a confidential “verbal agreement” to allow Hudson Falls Village Court Justice Michael M. Feeder (Washington County) to resign “quietly.”

“Judge Feeder and his counsel signed a stipulation in which they agreed that the formal charges pending against the judge would be made public if he left his judicial office before the Commission issued a determination on the merits,” Tembeckjian said. “That stipulation was accepted by the Commission and made part of a Commission order. We released the formal charges and related documents pursuant to the stipulation and the Commission's order after Judge Feeder resigned from his judicial office and specifically notified the press that the Commission was examining his conduct as a judge.”

Tembeckjian unequivocally denied that there was any subsequent verbal agreement to permit Judge Feeder to resign without releasing the documents. “No member of the staff said any such thing to the judge or to his counsel or to anyone else representing the judge,” Tembeckjian said.

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Judge Feeder announced his resignation from office on August 13, 2008, in a letter to the Hudson Falls Village Board and in an announcement to the press. On August 15, 2008, Judge Feeder's counsel informed the Commission that he was withdrawing this resignation.