



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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NEWS RELEASE

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Cattaraugus County Town Justice Resigns, Ending Inquiry into Administrative and Financial Improprieties

The New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct has completed formal proceedings against Michelle R. Miller, a Justice of the Leon Town Court, Cattaraugus County. Pursuant to a stipulation dated July 6, 2012, Judge Miller, who resigned by letter dated June 11, 2012, agreed to vacate judicial office effective June 19, 2012, and agreed not to seek or accept judicial office in the future. On that basis, the proceedings were discontinued and the matter was closed on August 8, 2012.

Under the terms of the stipulation, Judge Miller, who is not an attorney and who had served as a Justice of the Leon Town Court since 2007, waived the statutory provision of confidentiality applicable to Commission proceedings, to the limited extent that the stipulation and Commission decision and order would be made public.

The judge was served with a Formal Written Complaint dated April 30, 2012, alleging that she failed to perform numerous administrative and adjudicative responsibilities. The allegations in the Formal Written Complaint included:

- Failure to make timely reports to the State Comptroller with regard to fines and penalties;
- Failure to notify the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to order the suspension of the drivers' licenses of defendants who had failed to answer charges pending against them or to pay fines and surcharges imposed by the court;
- Failure to deposit monies into the court account within 72 hours of receipt;
- Failure to cooperate with the Commission's investigation.

The Commission has accepted 36 such stipulations since the procedure was instituted in 2003.

The stipulation and the Commission's order closing the case can be found on the Commission's website: www.cjc.ny.gov.

Counsel

In the proceedings before the Commission, Judge Miller represented herself.

The Commission was represented by Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator and Counsel to the Commission, and John J. Postel, Deputy Administrator in Charge of the Commission's Rochester Office. Senior Investigator Rebecca Roberts assisted in the investigation.

Members of the Commission

The Commission members serve four-year terms. A list of members is appended.

The Public File

The stipulation and order are attached. They are also available for inspection during regular business hours at the Commission's three offices:

61 Broadway Suite 1200 New York, New York 10006	Corning Tower, Suite 2301 Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12223	400 Andrews Street Suite 700 Rochester, New York 14604
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MEMBERS OF THE STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Member	Appointing Authority	Term End
Hon. Thomas A. Klonick, Chair	Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman	March 31, 2013
Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Vice Chair	Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman	March 31, 2016
Hon. Rolando T. Acosta	Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman	March 31, 2014
Joseph W. Belluck, Esq.	Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2016
Joel Cohen, Esq.	Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver	March 31, 2014
Richard D. Emery, Esq.	Senate Minority Leader John L. Sampson	March 31, 2016
Paul B. Harding, Esq.	Former Assembly Minority Leader James Tedisco	March 31, 2013
Nina M. Moore	Former Governor David A. Paterson	March 31, 2013
Hon. Karen K. Peters	Former Governor David A. Paterson	March 31, 2014
Richard A. Stoloff, Esq.	Senate President Pro Tem Dean Skelos	March 31, 2015
Vacant	Governor	March 31, 2015