

STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

In the Matter of the Investigation of Complaints
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivisions 1 and 2,
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

DAWN M. KEPPLER,

STIPULATION

a Justice of the Shelby Town Court,
an Associate Justice of the Ridgeway Town Court,
and an Associate Justice of Yates Town Court,
Orleans County.

THE FOLLOWING IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator and Counsel to the Commission on Judicial Conduct (“Commission”), and the Honorable Dawn M. Keppler and her attorney, Daniel M. Killelea, Esq. of The Law Office of Gilmour & Killelea.

1. Dawn M. Keppler has been a Justice of the Shelby Town Court, Orleans County, since January 1, 1999. She has been an Associate Justice of the Ridgeway Town Court, Orleans County, since January 1, 2004, and an Associate Justice of the Yates Town Court, Orleans County, since January 1, 2011. Her current terms as Justice of the Shelby Town Court, Associate Justice of the Ridgeway Town Court, and Associate Justice of the Yates Town Court, all expire on December 31, 2023. Judge Keppler is not an attorney.

2. In April 2022, the Commission apprised Judge Keppler that it was investigating a complaint that she improperly promoted prejudicial and inflammatory content on Facebook, and that she inappropriately lent the prestige of her judicial office to advance the private interests of others.

3. In three letters each dated November 21, 2022, Judge Keppler has tendered her resignations from the positions of Shelby Town Justice, Ridgeway Associate Justice and Yates Associate Justice. Those letters are appended as Exhibits A, B, and C, respectively. Judge Keppler affirms that she will vacate all three judicial offices by December 2, 2022.

4. Pursuant to Section 47 of the Judiciary Law, the Commission has 120 days from a judge's resignation to complete proceedings and, if it so determines, render and file a determination that the judge should be removed from office. Pursuant to Article VI, section 22(h) of the Constitution, a judge who is removed from office "shall be ineligible to hold other judicial office."

5. Judge Keppler affirms that, having vacated her judicial offices on December 2, 2022, she will neither seek nor accept judicial office at any time in the future.

6. Judge Keppler understands that, should she abrogate the terms of this Stipulation and hold any judicial position at any time in the future, the Commission's investigation of the complaint would be revived, she would be

served with a Formal Written Complaint on authorization of the Commission, and the matter would proceed to a hearing before a referee.

7. Upon execution of this Stipulation by the signatories below, this Stipulation will be presented to the Commission with the joint recommendation that the matter be concluded, by the terms of this Stipulation, without further proceedings.

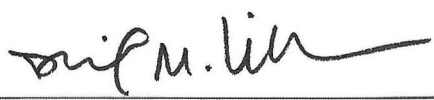
8. Judge Keppler waives confidentiality as provided by Section 45 of the Judiciary Law, to the extent that (1) this Stipulation will become public upon being signed by the signatories below, and (2) the Commission's Decision and Order regarding this Stipulation will become public.

Dated: 11/30/22



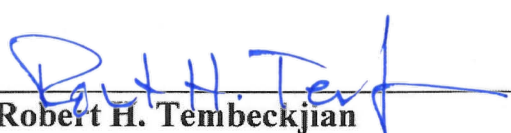
Honorable Dawn M. Keppler

Dated: 11 - 30 - 2022



Daniel M. Killelea
Gilmour & Killelea, LLP
Attorney for Judge Keppler

Dated: December 2, 2022



Robert H. Tembeckjian
Administrator & Counsel to the Commission
(John J. Postel and M. Kathleen Martin, Of Counsel)

TOWN OF SHELBY JUSTICE COURT

Hon. Dawn M. Keppler

Phone: 585-798-3120

Fax: 585-798-9010

EXHIBIT A

11/21/2022

Steven Seitz, Acting Supervisor
Town of Shelby
4062 Saltworks Rd
Medina, New York 14103

Dear Steve,

It has been a privilege to serve our community as Town Justice for the last twenty-three years, but I am resigning my position effective at the close of business on Friday, December 2, 2022.

Sincerely,



Dawn M. Keppler

Court: 4062 Saltworks Rd., Medina, NY 14103

Home: [REDACTED]

EXHIBIT B

November 21, 2022

Brian Napoli
Town Supervisor
Town of Ridgeway
Town Hall
410 West Avenue
Medina, New York 14103

Dear Mr. Napoli:

I write to inform you that I am resigning from the position of Associate Town Justice for the Town of Ridgeway, effective December 2, 2022.

I appreciate the opportunity to have served the Ridgeway community.

Sincerely,



Dawn M. Keppler

cc: Hon. Lawrence K. Marks
Chief Administrative Judge
New York State Unified Court System
25 Beaver Street
New York, New York 10004

Hon. William K. Taylor
Administrative Judge, 7th Judicial District
Office of Court Administration
Hall of Justice
99 Exchange
Rochester, New York 14614

EXHIBIT C

November 21, 2022

James Simon
Town Supervisor
Town of Yates
Town Hall
8 South Main Street
Lyndonville, New York 14098

Dear Mr. Simon:

I write to inform you that I am resigning from the position of Associate Town Justice for the Yates, effective December 2, 2022.

I appreciate the opportunity to have served the Yates community.

Sincerely,



Dawn M. Keppler

cc: Hon. Lawrence K. Marks
Chief Administrative Judge
New York State Unified Court System
25 Beaver Street
New York, New York 10004

Hon. William K. Taylor
Administrative Judge, 7th Judicial District
Office of Court Administration
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Rochester, New York 14614