

STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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

JEREMY L. PERSONS,


a Justice of the Guilford Town Court,
Chenango County.

**NOTICE OF FORMAL
WRITTEN COMPLAINT**

NOTICE is hereby given to Respondent, Jeremy L. Persons, a Justice of the Guilford Town Court, Chenango County, pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law, that the State Commission on Judicial Conduct has determined that cause exists to serve upon Respondent the annexed Formal Written Complaint; and that, in accordance with said statute, Respondent is requested within twenty (20) days of the service of the annexed Formal Written Complaint upon him to serve the Commission at its Albany office, Corning Tower, Suite 2301, Albany, New York 12223, with his verified Answer to the specific paragraphs of the Complaint.

Dated: July 13, 2022
New York, New York

ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN
Administrator and Counsel
State Commission on Judicial Conduct
61 Broadway, Suite 1200
New York, New York 10006
(646) 386-4800

To: Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

Mount Upton, New York 13809

STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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

**FORMAL
WRITTEN COMPLAINT**

JEREMY L. PERSONS,

a Justice of the Guilford Town Court,
Chenango County.

1. Article VI, Section 22, of the Constitution of the State of New York establishes a Commission on Judicial Conduct (“Commission”), and Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law empowers the Commission to direct that a Formal Written Complaint be drawn and served upon a judge.
2. The Commission has directed that a Formal Written Complaint be drawn and served upon Jeremy L. Persons (“Respondent”), a Justice of the Guilford Town Court, Chenango County.
3. The factual allegations set forth in Charges I through VII state acts of judicial misconduct by Respondent in violation of the Rules of the Chief Administrator of the Courts Governing Judicial Conduct (“Rules”).
4. Respondent has been a Justice of the Guilford Town Court, Chenango County, since January 2020. His term expires on December 31, 2023. Respondent is not an attorney.

CHARGE I

5. From in or about October 2020 to in or about October 2021, Respondent made sexually charged comments to and about attorneys appearing in his court and drove vehicles bearing puerile and otherwise inappropriate graphics and/or bumper stickers.

Specifications to Charge I

6. In or about October 2020, while sitting on the bench at the conclusion of the proceedings before him, Respondent commented to Public Defender Zachary Wentworth in sum and substance that he looked forward to Assistant Public Defender Stephanie Hanrahan's return from her vacation and said, "She's better looking than [you]."

7. On or about August 26, 2021, when Ms. Hanrahan and Assistant District Attorney Christopher Curley were in a conference with Respondent in Respondent's chambers, Ms. Hanrahan told Respondent that she would be attending the Sheriff's office golf tournament the following day, to which Respondent said, "I'd like to watch you golf." When Ms. Hanrahan noted that Respondent did not want to watch her since she was not good at golf, Respondent replied, "That's not why I want to watch you."

8. On or about August 26, 2021, while in the courtroom with Mr. Curley and Ms. Hanrahan, Respondent began discussing his marital relationship. Respondent told the attorneys that he had had a three-way relationship with his ex-

wife and another woman, but the two women cut him out of the relationship.

Referring to his ex-wife, Respondent then commented, “She likes the hole better than the pole.”

9. From in or about July 2021 to in or about October 2021, the following occurred in connection with Respondent’s automobile, a Chevrolet passenger car:

- A. Respondent displayed on his automobile a graphic of “Judge Dredd,” referring to a fictional character known in popular culture as “judge, jury and executioner.”
- B. On or about October 6, 2021, Respondent displayed on his automobile a bumper sticker that read, “Boobies Make Me Smile.”
- C. Respondent usually parked his vehicle near the non-public entrance to the court, where it was visible to police officers and/or defendants in custody, entering or leaving the court.

10. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that Respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary by failing to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety, in that he failed to respect and comply with the

law and failed to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules; failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that he failed to be patient, dignified and courteous to lawyers with whom he dealt in an official capacity, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(3) of the Rules, and manifested bias or prejudice against or in favor of a person based on sex or gender, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(4) of the Rules; and failed to conduct his extra-judicial activities so as to minimize the risk of conflict with judicial obligations, in that he failed to conduct his extra-judicial activities so that they do not detract from the dignity of judicial office, in violation of Section 100.4(A)(2) of the Rules.

CHARGE II

11. For the months of December 2020 and March 2021, Respondent failed to report or remit court funds in a timely manner to the Office of the State Comptroller (“Comptroller”), as required by Section 1803 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, Sections 2020 and 2021 of the Uniform Justice Court Act, Section 27, subdivision 1, of the Town Law, and Section 99-a of the State Finance Law.

Specifications to Charge II

12. On or about February 26, 2021, the Comptroller issued to Respondent a written notice that his December 2020 monthly report had not been filed by the

10th day of the following month as required and was not on file with the Comptroller. A copy of the notice is annexed as Exhibit A.

13. On or about April 13, 2021, the Comptroller issued to Respondent a second written notice that his December 2020 monthly report had not been filed by the 10th day of the following month as required and was not on file with the Comptroller. A copy of the second notice is annexed as Exhibit B.

14. On or about June 1, 2021, the Comptroller sent an email to Respondent, again noting the delinquent December 2020 monthly report and notifying him of his failure to file his March 2021 monthly report in a timely manner. A copy of the June 1, 2021, email is annexed as Exhibit C.

15. Respondent's failure to file his monthly reports for December 2020 and March 2021 in a timely manner resulted in his judicial salary being stopped on or about May 20, 2021. A copy of the stop-salary notice is annexed as Exhibit D.

16. Respondent failed to file his monthly reports for December 2020 and March 2021 with the Comptroller until on or about July 8, 2021, and July 20, 2021, respectively.

17. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article VI, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that Respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary by failing to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would

be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety, in that he failed to respect and comply with the law and failed to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules; and failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that he failed to insure that his judicial duties take precedence over all his other activities, in violation of Section 100.3(A) of the Rules, failed to be faithful to the law and maintain professional competence in it, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(1) of the Rules, and failed to diligently discharge his administrative responsibilities and maintain professional competence in judicial administration, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(1) of the Rules.

CHARGE III

18. From in or about 2018 to the date of this Formal Written Complaint, Respondent (A) failed to answer two traffic tickets issued to him in the Village of Johnson City, resulting in the suspension of his driver's license in or about February 2018 and again in or about April 2021, and (B) failed to renew the insurance on his motor vehicle, resulting in the suspension of his driver's license in or about January 2021.

Specifications to Charge III

19. On or about October 28, 2017, Respondent was charged with two traffic violations for driving a motor vehicle that was uninspected and was without

adequate lights. The citations were returnable in the Johnson City Village Court on November 15, 2017. A copy of the court file is annexed as Exhibit E.

20. Respondent failed to answer the tickets. As a result, his driver's license was suspended on or about February 22, 2018. The suspension was lifted on or about November 25, 2019, after Respondent pled not guilty and paid a fee to lift the suspension.

21. Thereafter, Respondent failed to appear on the two tickets in the Johnson City Village Court. As a result, on or about April 30, 2021, his license was suspended again.

22. On or about January 1, 2021, Respondent received an unrelated license suspension for lapsed insurance on his motor vehicle.

23. On or about September 9, 2021, after being notified by the Commission that it was investigating a complaint concerning his license suspensions, Respondent pled guilty to both traffic tickets in the Johnson City Village Court. On or about November 15, 2021, Respondent paid a total fine of \$335 plus a fee of \$140 to lift the second suspension.

24. Respondent's license remains suspended for lapsed insurance as of the date of this Formal Written Complaint. A copy of Respondent's driver's abstract is annexed as Exhibit F.

25. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article VI, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and

Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that Respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary by failing to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; and failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety, in that he failed to respect and comply with the law and failed to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules.

CHARGE IV

26. In or about September 2021, Respondent used his official judicial email account and address on a matter unrelated to his judicial office, to communicate with the Johnson City Village Court on a personal matter, after that court *inter alia* ordered the suspension of his driver's license.

Specifications to Charge IV

27. On or about October 28, 2017, Respondent was charged with two traffic violations for driving a motor vehicle that was uninspected and was without adequate lights. The citations were returnable in the Johnson City Village Court on November 15, 2017. Respondent failed to answer the tickets, and his driver's license was suspended on February 22, 2018, as a result. The suspension was lifted after Respondent pled not guilty and paid a fee to lift the suspension on or about November 25, 2019. However, Respondent again failed to appear on the

two tickets, and his license was suspended again on or about April 30, 2021. *See Exhibit E.*

28. In or around January 2020, after becoming a judge of the New York State Unified Court System (UCS), Respondent was issued a UCS email account with the address “██████████@nycourts.gov.”

29. On or about September 9, 2021, Respondent telephoned the Johnson City Village Court and spoke to April Chapman, a court clerk. During the call, Respondent gave Ms. Chapman the email address “██████████@nycourts.gov” as a means by which the court could communicate with him and send him the credit card form for payment of the suspension lift fee. After seeing the “nycourts” email address, Ms. Chapman looked up Respondent and made a note in the court file regarding her phone call that included the comment, “hes [sic] a judge at Guilford, NY.” *Exhibit E p. 9.*

30. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article VI, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that Respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary by failing to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; and failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in that he failed to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in

violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules, and lent the prestige of judicial office to advance his private interests, in violation of Section 100.2(C) of the Rules.

CHARGE V

31. From in or about August 2021, through the date of this Formal Written Complaint, Respondent failed to cooperate with the Office of Court Administration (“OCA”) and officials of the Town of Guilford in that he obstructed their efforts to obtain, examine, review and/or audit court records concerning his alleged failure to fulfill his official financial obligations and otherwise perform his judicial duties properly.

Specifications to Charge V

32. Supreme Court Justice Norman St. George serves as Deputy Chief Administrative Judge of the Unified Court System for the Courts Outside New York City. Supreme Court Justice Eugene D. Faughnan serves as Administrative Judge for the Sixth Judicial District, which is based in Binghamton and includes Chenango County. Cortland City Court Judge Elizabeth Burns serves as Supervising Judge for the Town and Village Courts in certain counties of the Sixth Judicial District, including Chenango County. Joshua S. Shapiro serves as Special Counsel to the Administrative Judge for the Town and Village Courts in the Sixth Judicial District. Guilford Town Justice Karen Osborn is Respondent’s co-judge. George Seneck is the Guildford Town Supervisor.

33. In or about May 2021, after Respondent's salary had been stopped for his failure to file monthly reports with the Office of the State Comptroller in a timely manner for December 2020 and March 2021, Judge Osborn, and Supervisor Seneck communicated with OCA officials and expressed their concerns regarding Respondent's handling of his judicial duties, including *inter alia*, the following:

- A. Respondent's failure to process and/or deposit fine payments or pleas in a timely manner according to law;
- B. Respondent's failure to report or remit funds to the Comptroller in a timely manner according to law;
- C. Respondent's improper suspensions of drivers' licenses;
- D. Respondent's failure to lift license suspensions after requisite suspension fees had been paid to lift such suspensions; and
- E. Respondent's failure to address complaints from litigants who experienced difficulty reaching him or his office on court-related business.

34. On or about August 4, 2021, Supervising Judge Burns and Special Counsel Shapiro met with Respondent, Judge Osborn, and Supervisor Seneck to address and resolve concerns regarding Respondent's judicial and administrative duties. Respondent agreed to take remedial steps necessary to address each of the concerns, including a missing deposit of court funds.

35. On or about September 21, 2021, Respondent was asked to meet with Supervising Judge Burns and Mr. Shapiro at the Sixth Judicial District Administrative Office in Binghamton. Although Respondent had confirmed that he would attend this meeting, which was scheduled for 10:00 AM, he did not appear for the meeting, nor did he respond to several messages left on his cell phone and home phone by Mr. Shapiro that day.

36. On or about September 22, 2021, Respondent wrote an email to Mr. Shapiro asserting that he did not attend the meeting because his car broke down, that he had no cell phone service at the location where his car broke down, and that when he reached an area where he did have cell phone service, he did not have the phone number for the District office.

37. Despite his agreement on or about August 4, 2021, to take remedial steps regarding his judicial and administrative duties, Respondent failed to do so, notwithstanding assistance offered by Judge Burns and Mr. Shapiro. As a result, Mr. Shapiro, in consultation with Administrative Judge Faughnan, ordered an internal audit of the Guilford Town Court.

38. An initial audit meeting was held on October 7, 2021, via video.¹ At the meeting, Respondent was told which documents he needed to produce to the

¹ The meeting originally was scheduled to be held in person, but Respondent had to be asked to appear virtually after he told Mr. Shapiro that his wife and son has been exposed to the COVID-19 virus and were symptomatic.

auditors. Although Respondent promised to scan and email the requested documents, he never did so.

39. On or about October 15, 2021, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge St. George issued an administrative order, AO/298/2021, directing Respondent to relinquish his judicial duties, in that all pending matters before him were to be assigned to another judge, and no additional matters were to be assigned to him. A copy of the order is annexed as Exhibit G.

40. Notwithstanding Respondent's failure to cooperate with the audit of his court records between October 2021 and May 2022, the audit was completed and found five areas of concern, as follows:

- A. There is a shortage in Respondent's combined fine/fee and bail account;
- B. Receipts were not always deposited and disbursed in a timely manner;
- C. Receipt forms were not properly controlled;
- D. Cash handling responsibilities were not separated; and
- E. Cash and checkbook records were deleted from the cashbook.

A copy of the audit report is annexed as Exhibit H.

41. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that Respondent failed to

uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary by failing to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in that he failed to respect and comply with the law and failed to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules; and failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that he failed to be faithful to the law and maintain professional competence in it, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(1) of the Rules, and failed to diligently discharge his administrative responsibilities and maintain professional competence in judicial administration, and failed to cooperate with court and town officials, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(1) of the Rules.

CHARGE VI

42. From in or about July 2021 to in or about April 2022, Respondent failed to cooperate with the Commission's investigation of the complaints against him that resulted in the authorization of this Formal Written Complaint, in that he:

- A. failed to respond to three letters from the Commission requesting his response to complaints concerning his failure to report and remit to the Comptroller and his driver's license suspensions;

- B. failed to produce court records and other related documents requested by the Commission; and
- C. failed to appear for testimony concerning four complaints against him.

Specifications to Charge VI

43. Section 44, subdivision 3, of the Judiciary Law, and Volume 22, Sections 7000.3(c) and (e) of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (22 NYCRR 7000.3[c] and [e]), authorize the Commission to request a written response from a judge who is the subject of a complaint and to require a judge's testimony during an investigation.

44. By letter dated June 23, 2021, the Commission notified Respondent that it was investigating a complaint from the Comptroller alleging that he had failed to file reports or remit funds to the Comptroller in the time required by law for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, resulting in his judicial salary being stopped on or about May 20, 2020. The letter requested Respondent's written response to the allegations by July 21, 2021. A copy of the letter is annexed as Exhibit I.

45. Respondent submitted an undated letter, received by the Commission on August 5, 2021, attributing the delay in filing his monthly reports for December 2020 and March 2021 to medical issues that led to his hospitalization. Respondent asked for additional time to respond to the remaining questions about his court

activity and to provide related courts records, but he did not offer a timeframe for the additional response. A copy of the Respondent's undated letter is annexed as Exhibit J.

46. By letter dated August 26, 2021, the Commission sent Respondent a follow-up letter concerning both the complaint by the Comptroller and an additional complaint alleging that Respondent's driver's license was suspended due to lapsed insurance, and that he had failed to answer two traffic tickets in the Village of Johnson City. A copy of the letter is annexed as Exhibit K.

47. Respondent failed to respond to the Commission's letter of August 26, 2021. By letter dated September 30, 2021, the Commission sent Respondent a copy of its letter dated August 26, 2021, and requested his response by October 12, 2021. The letter of September 30 informed Respondent that his "failure to respond may be found by the Commission to be a failure to cooperate with the investigation" (emphasis in original). A copy of the letter dated September 30, 2021, is annexed as Exhibit L.

48. Respondent never submitted an additional response to the Commission's letter dated June 23, 2021, nor did he submit any response to the Commission letters dated August 26, 2021, and September 30, 2021.

49. By letter dated March 11, 2022, the Commission notified Respondent to appear for testimony via video on April 4, 2022, concerning the four complaints and his failure to respond to the Commission's inquiries. The letter also asked

Respondent to produce certain documents by March 24, 2021, and to confirm his appearance by March 28, 2021. A copy of the letter is annexed as Exhibit M.

50. Respondent neither confirmed his appearance for testimony nor provided any documents to the Commission. Respondent first communicated with the Commission on April 4, 2022, approximately five minutes before his testimony was to begin, to ask for a video link in order to participate in the proceeding. During the phone call, Respondent offered no explanation for why he failed to produce the records or confirm his appearance in advance, as the Commission had directed.

51. After being provided with the video link, Respondent appeared, and the proceeding to take his testimony commenced. After a short time, however, he abruptly disconnected from the proceeding. After a brief recess was called and Commission staff attempted to determine what had occurred, Commission staff established a telephone connection with Respondent, who claimed that an internet outage in his area had occurred. The stenographer transcribing the video proceeding continued to transcribe the telephone conversation, during which Respondent agreed on the record that his testimony would resume on April 8, 2022, at 10:00 AM, in person at the Commission's Albany office, which he would attend to complete his testimony. A copy of the transcript of the April 4, 2022, proceeding is annexed as Exhibit N.

52. The Commission sent Respondent a letter dated April 5, 2022, confirming his appearance on April 8, and providing directions to the Commission's Albany office. A copy of the letter is annexed as Exhibit O.

53. Respondent failed to appear at the Commission on April 8, 2022, and he failed to communicate with the Commission in any manner. A transcript was prepared on April 8, 2022, noting Respondent's failure to appear. A copy of the transcript is annexed as Exhibit P.

54. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that Respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary by failing to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; and failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety, in that Respondent failed to respect and comply with the law and failed to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules.

CHARGE VII

55. From in or about December 2020 to in or about October 2021, on various occasions, Respondent visibly carried a handgun while inside or just outside the courthouse, in violation of his permit to carry a concealed pistol.

Specifications to Charge VII

56. On or about August 24, 2020, Respondent applied for a New York State Pistol Permit.

57. On or about December 11, 2020, Respondent was issued a permit to carry a concealed pistol. A copy of the permit is annexed as Exhibit Q.

Respondent thereafter obtained two handguns: a semi-automatic Glock and a Uberti revolver.

58. Notwithstanding that Respondent's permit requires the pistol to be concealed, his practice while in or just outside the courthouse was to carry a handgun on a hip-holster which was easily visible anytime he was not wearing his judicial robe.

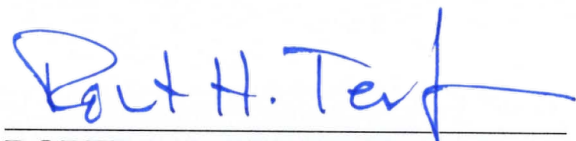
59. On one occasion from in or about July 2021 to in or about October 2021, Respondent placed his handgun on the bench when ADA Wentworth was appearing before him during a session of the court.

60. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that Respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary by failing to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety, in that he failed to respect and comply with the

law and failed to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules; failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that he failed to be faithful to the law and maintain professional competence in it, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(1) or the Rules, failed to maintain order and decorum in proceedings before him, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(2) of the Rules, and failed to be patient, dignified and courteous to those with whom he dealt in an official capacity in violation of Section 100.3(B)(3) of the Rules; and failed to conduct his extra-judicial activities so as to minimize the risk of conflict with judicial obligations, in that he failed to conduct his extra-judicial activities so that they do not detract from the dignity of judicial office, in violation of Section 100.4(A)(2) of the Rules.

WHEREFORE, by reason of the foregoing, the Commission should take whatever further action it deems appropriate in accordance with its powers under the Constitution and the Judiciary Law of the State of New York.

Dated: July 13, 2022
New York, New York



ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN
Administrator and Counsel
State Commission on Judicial Conduct
61 Broadway, Suite 1200
New York, New York 10006
(646) 386-4800

STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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

VERIFICATION

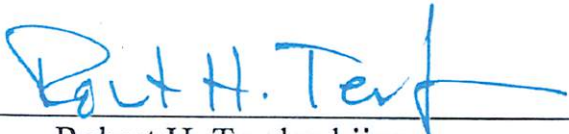
JEREMY L. PERSONS,

a Justice of the Guilford Town Court,
Chenango County.

STATE OF NEW YORK)
 : ss.:
COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am the Administrator of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.
2. I have read the foregoing Formal Written Complaint and, upon information and belief, all matters stated therein are true.
3. The basis for said information and belief is the files and records of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.



Robert H. Tembeckjian

Sworn to before me this
13th day of July 2022



Notary Public

LATASHA Y. JOHNSON
Notary Public, State of New York
No.01JO6235579
Qualified in New York County
Commission Expires February 14, 2023



February 26, 2021

Mailed March 3, 2021

Honorable Jeremy Persons
Town of Guilford
223 Marble Rd
Guildford, NY 13780

Justice ID: 0833560497P

Dear Justice Persons:

Town and village justices are required to file a monthly report with the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) by the tenth of the month following the report month (Town Law §27; Village Law §4-410; Uniform Justice Court Act §2021). A report must be filed even if it is to indicate no activity in that month.

The following report(s) were either not received or were not properly reported:

December 2020

Please check your records for confirmation. If you have already filed the report(s), please contact this office so we may further review this matter. If you have not filed, please do so as soon as possible so that you are in legal compliance with reporting requirements.

Getting started with justice report filing:

- Visit OSC's Justice Court Filing Website [Justice Court Fund Internet Reporting System \(JCFIR\)](#)
- Log in using your JCFIR **User ID** and Password

If you need assistance with filing, contact our Help Desk at 866-321-8503, Option 2, or email us at courtfund@osc.ny.gov.

We understand that local governments are facing many challenges at this time. Our staff is working to target our efforts to support your needs and priorities. Please contact us with any questions.

Thank you,
Antoinette Villani
Manager, Justice Court Fund Unit



April 13, 2021

Mailed May 3, 2021

Honorable Jeremy Persons
Town of Guilford
223 Marble Rd
Guildford, NY 13780

Justice ID: 0833560497P

Dear Justice Persons:

Town and village justices are required to file a monthly report with the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) by the tenth of the month following the report month (Town Law §27; Village Law §4-410; Uniform Justice Court Act §2021). A report must be filed even if it is to indicate no activity in that month.

We notified you on February 26, 2021 that the following report(s) were either not received or were not properly reported. We have not received the requested report(s).

December 2020

To file your report visit the Justice Court Filing Website [Justice Court Fund Internet Reporting System \(JCFIR\)](#). If you need assistance with filing, contact our Help Desk at 866-321-8503, Option 2, or email us at courtfund@osc.ny.gov.

Failure to file the required report may result in loss of revenue to the municipality and affect your compensation. If this matter is not resolved timely, your chief fiscal officer will be given formal notification that there has been a failure to properly report to the State Comptroller as required by Section 27 of the Town Law or Section 4-410 of the Village Law.

It is imperative that you submit the delinquent report(s) as soon as possible to avoid potential penalties. We understand that local governments are facing many challenges at this time. Our staff is working to target our efforts to support your needs and priorities. Please contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Leanna Dillon
Auditor 2 (Municipal)
Justice Court Fund

cc: Binghamton Regional Office, Office of the State Comptroller
Honorable Nancy Sunukjian, Office of Court Administration
Honorable Brian D Burns, 6th Judicial District

Town of Guilford Justice Court Reports Due

EXHIBIT C

Antoinette Villani <[REDACTED]@osc.ny.gov>

on behalf of

Courtfund <Courtfund@osc.ny.gov>

Tue 6/1/2021 06:14 PM

To: [REDACTED]@nycourts.gov <[REDACTED]@nycourts.gov>

Good Evening Judge Persons,

As a courtesy, I am contacting you prior to our office mailing an elevated delinquent report notice for your report for December 2020. You were previously notified that this report was past due by mailed notices dated 02/26/21 and 4/13/21. Please note that your report for March 2021 is also past due.

Please call me as soon as possible at [REDACTED] to discuss your delinquent reports. Pending your phone call, or submission of the delinquent reports, we will hold off on mailing the elevated delinquent notice until Friday, 6/4/21.

Thank you,

Antoinette Villani

Antoinette Villani

Manager, Justice Court Fund

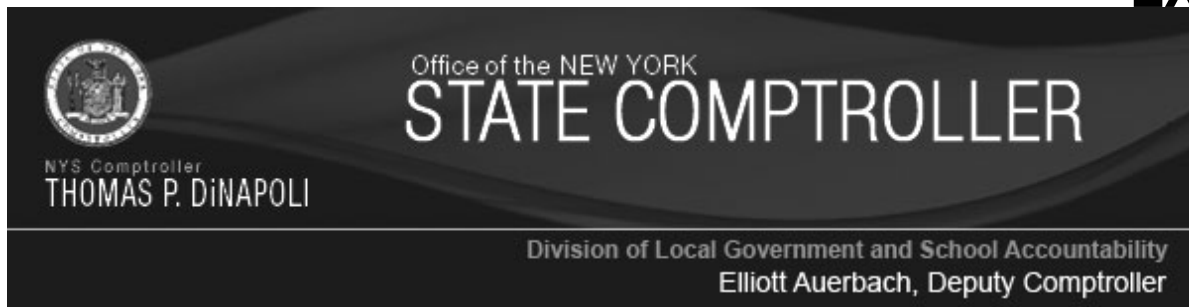
Office of the State Comptroller

Division of Local Government and School Accountability

110 State Street, 12th Floor

Albany, NY 12236





May 20, 2021

Mailed 6/7/2021

George Seneck
Supervisor
Town of Guilford
223 Marble Rd
Guilford NY 13780

Re: Justice ID 0833560497P
Honorable Jeremy Persons

Dear Supervisor:

This is official notification that the above referenced Justice has not properly reported to the State Comptroller for the following month(s):

December 2020, March 2021

Pursuant to Section 27 of the Town Law and Section 4-410 of the Village Law, every town and village justice must file a report monthly with the State Comptroller. The report, certification, or remittance, if any, is due by the tenth of the month following the report month (e.g., the April report is due by the tenth of May). A report must be sent even if it is to indicate that no activity occurred in that month. In the event that a justice fails to properly account for any moneys received by such justice, the chief fiscal officer will be notified. Upon receipt of such notice from the State Comptroller, it shall be unlawful for the town or village to make any further payment of compensation to such justice until receipt of a notice from the Comptroller that a proper accounting has been made.

No further compensation should be made to this Justice until further notice from this office. Please sign the attached copy of this notification and return it to:

**Office of the State Comptroller
Justice Court Fund
110 State Street
Albany, NY 12236**

Sincerely,

Antoinette Villani
Manager
Justice Court Fund

encl

cc: Honorable Jeremy Persons
Binghamton Regional Office, Office of the State Comptroller
Honorable Nancy Sunukjian, Office of Court Administration
Honorable Brian D Burns, 6th Judicial District
Chief Council, Commission on Judicial Conduct

11/15

PAY 11/15/21



EXHIBIT E

2C317JZJZW

New York State - Department of Motor Vehicles
SIMPLIFIED INFORMATION/CERTIFICATE CONCERNING VIOLATION OF LAW RELATING TO VEHICLES

The people of the State of New York
vs.

NEW YORK STATE POLICE

Last Name(Defendant) PERSONS		First Name JEREMY		M.I. L	Date of Arraignment
Number and Street [REDACTED]		Apt. No.	Photo Lic Shown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Court Adjourment Record
City JOHNSON CITY		State NY	Zip Code 137900000	Owner is Oper. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lic. Class D
Client ID Number [REDACTED]		Sex M	Date Expires 10/11/2025		Docket Number 17100254.01
Lic State NY	Date of Birth [REDACTED]	Veh. Type 1	Year 1989	Make FORD	Color BK
Plate Number HEX6285		Reg State NY	Registration Expires 04/13/2018		

THE PERSON DESCRIBED ABOVE IS CHARGED AS FOLLOWS

Time 11:34PM	Date of Offense 10/28/2017	IN VIOLATION OF VTL
Violation Section 0306 B		Traffic Infraction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Misd <input type="checkbox"/> Felony <input type="checkbox"/>
Description of Violation UNINSPECTED MOTOR VEHICLE		MPH <input type="checkbox"/> MPH ZONE <input type="checkbox"/>
		US DOT# <input type="checkbox"/>
		Comm Veh <input type="checkbox"/> Bus <input type="checkbox"/> HazMat <input type="checkbox"/>
C/T/V/Name VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY	County BROOME	Hwy.No 17C Loc.Code 0403
Street Name MAIN ST		Hwy Type 2 NCIC/ORI 10303

AFFIRMED UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

[Signature]
(Officer's Signature)

Officer operating radar

Date of Affirmation 10/28/2017	Arrest Type 1 - Patrol	Badge/Shield 4109	Officer's Com./Div./Stat. C213
Officer's Last Name GORMAN			
First Name C			M.I.

THIS MATTER IS SCHEDULED TO BE HANDLED ON THE APPEARANCE DATE BELOW IN:

JOHNSON CITY VILLAGE COURT

Address
31 AVENUE C, SUITE 2

City
JOHNSON CITY State
NY Zip
13790

Return by mail before or in person on: Date
11/15/17 Time
08:30AM

Must appear in person on:

FOR COURT USE ONLY

Court Code NY003061J	Justice Code 03303	Date Adjudicated	Date Sentence Imposed
Charge Convicted of <input type="checkbox"/> AS ABOVE <input type="checkbox"/> VTL <input type="checkbox"/> Other		Disposition/Sentence	Fine \$
Bail Forfeiture Date		Surcharge \$	
Amount \$		<input type="checkbox"/> LIC <input type="checkbox"/> REG <input type="checkbox"/> Rev <input type="checkbox"/> Susp <input type="checkbox"/> Mand. <input type="checkbox"/> Perm DAYS/MONTHS/YEAR	
DWI Test Type		DWI Test Results	

Bail	Amount	Date	Receipt No.
Refund			
Fine	97	9/14/21	
Surcharge	93	9	

NS - 11/15/17

P/6 9/10/21 ->

N/S - 1/17/20

SECTION 1807 OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW PROVIDES THAT DEFENDANT, IN CERTAIN CASES, MUST BE INFORMED IN SUBSTANCE AS FOLLOWS:

"A plea of guilty to this charge is equivalent to a conviction after trial. If you are convicted, not only will you be liable to a penalty, but in addition your license to drive a motor vehicle or motorcycle, and your certificate of registration, if any, are subject to suspension and revocation as prescribed by law."

To Judge or Clerk of Court: Checkmark the appropriate box or boxes below.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT:

- Upon arraignment, that the above instruction was given orally to the defendant.
- The defendant appeared in response to a ticket upon which the above instructions were printed in bold type, in accordance with Section 1807 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law.
- Defendant entered a plea of guilty in writing pursuant to Section 1805 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law.

I hereby certify that the information given on this certificate is a true abstract from the records of this court.

Signature of Judge or Clerk of Court	Date
Name of Judge	

Supporting Deposition Issued: None Speeding(Gen101) Non - Speeding(Gen101a)

117

2C317JZJM8



New York State - Department of Motor Vehicles
SIMPLIFIED INFORMATION/CERTIFICATE CONCERNING VIOLATION OF LAW RELATING TO VEHICLES

The people of the State of New York
vs.

NEW YORK STATE POLICE

Last Name(Defendant) PERSONS		First Name JEREMY		M.I. L	Date of Arraignment	
Number and Street [REDACTED]		Apt. No.	Photo Lic Shown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Court Adjudgment Record	
City JOHNSON CITY		State NY	Zip Code 137900000	Owner is Oper. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lic. Class D	Docket Number 17100254.02
Client ID Number [REDACTED]		Sex M	Date Expires 10/11/2025		Date From Code Date To Requested By	
Lic State NY	Date of Birth [REDACTED]	Veh. Type 1	Year 1989	Make FORD	Color BK	
Plate Number HEX6285		Reg State NY	Registration Expires 04/13/2018		Amount Date Receipt No.	

THE PERSON DESCRIBED ABOVE IS CHARGED AS FOLLOWS

Time 11:34PM	Date of Offense 10/28/2017	IN VIOLATION OF VTL
Violation Section 0375 2A1		Traffic Infraction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Misd <input type="checkbox"/> Felony <input type="checkbox"/>
Description of Violation NO/INADEQUATE LIGHTS		MPH MPH ZONE
		US DOT#
		Comm Veh <input type="checkbox"/> Bus <input type="checkbox"/> HazMat <input type="checkbox"/>

CITY/Name VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY	County BROOME	Hwy.No 17C	Loc.Code 0403
Street Name MAIN ST		Hwy Type 2	NCIC/ORI 10303

AFFIRMED UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

[Signature]

(Officer's Signature)

Officer operating radar

Date of Affirmation 10/28/2017	Arrest Type 1 - Patrol	Badge/Shield 4109	Officer's Com./Div./Stat. C213
Officer's Last Name GORMAN			
First Name C		M.I.	

THIS MATTER IS SCHEDULED TO BE HANDLED ON THE APPEARANCE DATE BELOW IN:

JOHNSON CITY VILLAGE COURT

Address
31 AVENUE C, SUITE 2

City JOHNSON CITY	State NY	Zip 13790
-----------------------------	--------------------	---------------------

Return by mail before or in person on: Date **11/15/17** Time **08:30AM**

Must appear in person on:

FOR COURT USE ONLY

Court Code NY003061J	Justice Code 03303	Date Adjudicated	Date Sentence Imposed
Charge Convicted of <input type="checkbox"/> AS ABOVE <input type="checkbox"/> VTL <input type="checkbox"/> Other		Disposition/Sentence	Fine \$ Surcharge \$
Bail Forfeiture Amount \$	Date	<input type="checkbox"/> LIC <input type="checkbox"/> REG <input type="checkbox"/> Rev <input type="checkbox"/> Susp <input type="checkbox"/> Mand. <input type="checkbox"/> Perm DAYS/MONTHS/YEAR	
DWI Test Type		DWI Test Results	

Bail			
Refund			
Fine	82	9/14/21	
Surcharge	63	61	
P/G 9/10/21			

SECTION 1807 OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW PROVIDES THAT DEFENDANT, IN CERTAIN CASES, MUST BE INFORMED IN SUBSTANCE AS FOLLOWS:

"A plea of guilty to this charge is equivalent to a conviction after trial. If you are convicted, not only will you be liable to a penalty, but in addition your license to drive a motor vehicle or motorcycle, and your certificate of registration, if any, are subject to suspension and revocation as prescribed by law."

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I hereby certify that the information given on this certificate is a true abstract from the records of this court.

Signature of Judge or Clerk of Court	Date
Name of Judge	

Supporting Deposition Issued: None Speeding(Gen101) Non - Speeding(Gen101a)

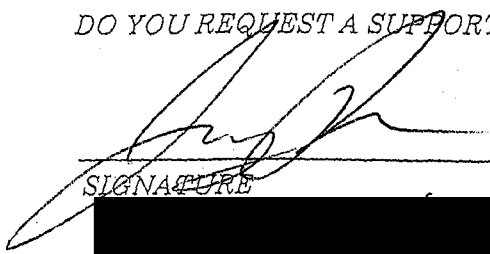
Johnson City Village Court

31 Avenue C Suite 2
George Korutz Justice Building
Johnson City, NY 13790
Phone: 607-798-0002
Fax: 607-798-9051

Plea of Not Guilty

NOTICE: YOU ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE A SUPPORTING DEPOSITION FURTHER EXPLAINING THE CHARGES PROVIDED. IF YOU REQUEST SUCH SUPPORTING DEPOSITION WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE YOU ARE DIRECTED TO APPEAR IN COURT AS SET FORTH ON THIS APPEARANCE TICKET

DO YOU REQUEST A SUPPORTING DEPOSITION? _____ YES NO


SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

Mount Upton, NY, 13809

CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE

NOTE: MAIL TO THE JOHNSON CITY VILLAGE COURT, 31 AVENUE C, SUITE 2, JOHNSON CITY, NY 13790 BY REGISTERED OR CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, OR BY FIRST CLASS MAIL, WITHIN 48 HOURS. THE COURT SHALL THEN ADVISE THE VIOLATOR BY MAIL OF THE TRIAL DATE.

APPLICANTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE MUST SUBMIT NAME AND ADDRESS OF PARENT AND GAURDIAN BELOW:

NAME OF PARENT OR GAURDIAN

ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE

RECEIVED

NOV 25 2019

JOHNSON CITY
VILLAGE COURT

Johnson City Village Court

November 25, 2019

Jeremy L. Persons



Johnson City, NY 13790-0000

Receipt # TF15306

Case no: 17100254

Paid by: Jeremy L. Persons

Reason: Scoff Lift Fee

	Fine	Surchg	Civil Fee	Bail	Other	Total
Amount Received:	0.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	0.00	140.00

Ticket #	Statute/Section	Charge Text	Disposition	Fine	CivFee	SurChg
2C317JZJ	VTL 0306 B	NO INSP CERT		0.00	0.00	0.00
2C317JZJ	VTL 0375 2A1	VIOL-LIGHTS		0.00	0.00	0.00

No Money Due

Justice Court Personnel

2C317JZJM8

New York State - Department of Motor Vehicles
SIMPLIFIED INFORMATION/CERTIFICATE CONCERNING VIOLATION OF LAW RELATING TO VEHICLES



The people of the State of New York
VS.

NEW YORK STATE POLICE

Last Name (Defendant) PERSONS		First Name JEREMY		M.I. L	Date of Arraignment 11/25/2019		Docket Number 17100254.02	
Number and Street [REDACTED]		Apt. No.		Photo Lic Shown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date From	Code	Date To	Requested By
City JOHNSON CITY	State NY	Zip Code 137900000	Owner Is Oper. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lic. Class D				
Client ID Number [REDACTED]		Sex M	Date Expires 10/11/2025					
Lic State NY	Date of Birth [REDACTED]	Veh. Type 1	Year 1989	Make FORD	Color BK			
Plate Number HEX6285		Reg State NY	Registration Expires 04/13/2018		Amount	Date	Receipt No.	

THE PERSON DESCRIBED ABOVE IS CHARGED AS FOLLOWS

Time 11:34PM	Date of Offense 10/28/2017	IN VIOLATION OF VTL	Traffic Infraction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Misd <input type="checkbox"/> Felony <input type="checkbox"/>		
Violation Section 0375 2A1		MPH	MPH ZONE		
Description of Violation NO/INADEQUATE LIGHTS		US DOT#			
[REDACTED]		Comm Veh <input type="checkbox"/>	Bus <input type="checkbox"/>	HazMat <input type="checkbox"/>	
City/Town/Village VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY		County BROOME	Hwy. No 17C	Loc. Code 0403	
Street Name MAIN ST		Hwy Type 2	NCIC/ORI 10303		

AFFIRMED UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

[Signature]
(Officer's Signature)

Officer operating radar

Date of Affirmation 10/28/2017	Arrest Type 1 - Patrol	Badge/Shield 4109	Officer's Com./Div./Stat. C213
Officer's Last Name GORMAN			
First Name C			M.I.

THIS MATTER IS SCHEDULED TO BE HANDLED ON THE APPEARANCE DATE BELOW IN:
JOHNSON CITY VILLAGE COURT

Address
31 AVENUE C, SUITE 2

City
JOHNSON CITY

State
NY

Zip
13790

Return by mail before or in person on: Date **11/15/17** Time **08:30AM**

Must appear in person on:

FOR COURT USE ONLY

Court Code NY003061J	Justice Code 03303	Date Adjudicated	Date Sentence Imposed
Charge Convicted of <input type="checkbox"/> AS ABOVE <input type="checkbox"/> VTL <input type="checkbox"/> Other		Disposition/Sentence	Fine \$
Bail Forfeiture Date		<input type="checkbox"/> LIC <input type="checkbox"/> REG <input type="checkbox"/> Rev <input type="checkbox"/> Susp <input type="checkbox"/> Mand. <input type="checkbox"/> Perm DAYS/MONTHS/YEAR	Surcharge \$
DWI Test Type			DWI Test Results

I plead Guilty
Jeremy Persons
[REDACTED]
Mount Upton NY 13807

SECTION 1807 OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW PROVIDES THAT DEFENDANT, IN CERTAIN CASES, MUST BE INFORMED IN SUBSTANCE AS FOLLOWS:

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- Defendant entered a plea of guilty in writing pursuant to Section 1805 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law.

I hereby certify that the information given on this certificate is a true abstract from the records of this court.

Signature of Judge or Clerk of Court	Date
Name of Judge	

Supporting Deposition Issued: None Speeding (Gen101) Non-Speeding (Gen101a)

2C317JZJZW



New York State - Department of Motor Vehicles
SIMPLIFIED INFORMATION/CERTIFICATE CONCERNING VIOLATION OF LAW RELATING TO VEHICLES

The people of the State of New York
VS.

NEW YORK STATE POLICE

Last Name (Defendant) PERSONS		First Name JEREMY		M.I. L	Date of Arraignment 11/26/2019	Court Adjudgment Record		Docket Number 17100254.01
Number and Street [REDACTED]		Apt. No.	Photo Lic Shown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	City JOHNSON CITY	State NY	Zip Code 137900000	Owner is Oper. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lic. Class D
Client ID Number [REDACTED]		Sex M	Date Expires 10/11/2025	Lic State NY	Date of Birth [REDACTED]	Veh. Type 1	Year 1989	Make FORD
Plate Number HEX6285		Reg State NY	Registration Expires 04/13/2018	Date From		Code	Date To	Requested By

THE PERSON DESCRIBED ABOVE IS CHARGED AS FOLLOWS

Time 11:34PM	Date of Offense 10/28/2017	IN VIOLATION OF VTL
Violation Section 0306 B	Traffic Infraction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Misd <input type="checkbox"/>
Description of Violation UNINSPECTED MOTOR VEHICLE	Felony <input type="checkbox"/>	MPH [REDACTED]
	MPH ZONE	US DOT#
	Comm Veh <input type="checkbox"/>	Bus <input type="checkbox"/>
	HazMat <input type="checkbox"/>	City/Name VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
	County BROOME	Hwy No 17C
	Loc Code 0403	Street Name MAIN ST
	Hwy Type 2	N/C/O/RI 10303

AFFIRMED UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

[Signature]
(Officer's Signature)

Officer operating radar

Date of Affirmation 10/28/2017	Arrest Type 1 - Patrol	Badge/Shield 4109	Officer's Com./Div./Stat C213
Officer's Last Name GORMAN			
First Name C		M.I.	

THIS MATTER IS SCHEDULED TO BE HANDLED ON THE APPEARANCE DATE BELOW IN:

JOHNSON CITY VILLAGE COURT

Address
31 AVENUE C, SUITE 2

City
JOHNSON CITY

State
NY

Zip
13790

Return by mail before or in person on: Date **11/15/17** Time **08:30AM**

Must appear in person on:

FOR COURT USE ONLY

Court Code NY003061J	Justice Code 03303	Date Adjudicated	Date Sentence Imposed
Charge Convicted of <input type="checkbox"/> AS ABOVE <input type="checkbox"/> VTL <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Disposition/Sentence	Fine \$	Surchage \$
Ball Forfeiture Amount \$	Date	<input type="checkbox"/> LIC <input type="checkbox"/> REG <input type="checkbox"/> Rev <input type="checkbox"/> Susp <input type="checkbox"/> Mand. <input type="checkbox"/> Perm DAYS/MONTHS/YEAR	
DWI Test Type	DWI Test Results		

Amount Date Receipt No.

Ball

Refund

Fine

Surcharge

I Plead Guilty

Jeremy Persons

[REDACTED]

Mount Upton, NY 13809

SECTION 1807 OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW PROVIDES THAT DEFENDANT, IN CERTAIN CASES, MUST BE INFORMED IN SUBSTANCE AS FOLLOWS:

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Defendant entered a plea of guilty in writing pursuant to Section 1805 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law.

I hereby certify that the information given on this certificate is a true abstract from the records of this court.

Signature of Judge or Clerk of Court _____ Date _____

Name of Judge _____

Supporting Deposition Issued: None Speeding(Gen101) Non-Speeding(Gen101a)



Johnson City Village Court
31 Avenue C, Suite 2
Johnson City, NY 13790
Phone: 607-798-0002

To Make A Payment By Credit Card

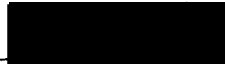
Reason for transaction:

Scott left fee max \$140 for 2 tickets

Billing zipcode:



Expiration Date:



3 Character Code:



Card Holder:

Jeremy L. Parsons

(Print Name As It Appears On Card)

Card Number:



I hereby accept the fine amount(s) imposed by the court and authorized payment hereof on the above-noted credit card. NOTE: Should a bank reject your transaction a suspension will be issued without further notice.

(Signature As It Appears On Credit Card)

Notice of Credit Card Service Fee: A service fee of 2.99% of the payment amount will be assessed on all credit card payments.

Johnson City Village Court

September 10, 2021

Jeremy L. Persons

Mount Upton, NY 13809

Receipt # TF18386

Case no: 17100254

Paid by: Jeremy L. Persons

Reason: Scoff Lift Fee

	Fine	Surchg	Civil Fee	Bail	Other	Total
Amount Received:	0.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	0.00	140.00

Ticket #	Statute/Section	Charge Text	Disposition	Fine	CivFee	SurChg
2C317JZJ	VTL 0306 B	NO INSP CERT		0.00	0.00	0.00
2C317JZJ	VTL 0375 2A1	VIOL-LIGHTS		0.00	0.00	0.00

No Money Due



Justice Court Personnel

Johnson City Village Court
Case History Report
 Judge Gregory P Thomas

Case Number: 17100254

Printed: 11/18/2021 at: 03:31PM

Page 1 of 1

Name: JEREMY L. PERSONS
 [REDACTED]
 MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

DOB: [REDACTED]
Sex: M

Crime: 10/28/2017
Adjudicate: 09/14/2021

Arrest: 10/28/2017
Sentence: 09/14/2021

Arraign: 11/25/2019
Dispose: / /

Reference/ Ticket No.	Stat/Sec	Charge Text	Disposition	Fine	CivilFee	Schg
2C317JZJZW	VTL 0306 B	NO INSP CERT	Fine/Fee	97.00	0.00	93.00
2C317JZJM8	VTL 0375 2A1	VIOL-LIGHTS	Fine/Fee	82.00	0.00	63.00

Prosecutor: Garrett Lyons

Attorney:

Police Officer: CHRISTOPHER J. GORMAN
Agency: NYS

Scheduled Appearances:

11/15/21 PAY FINE IN MAIL	09/10/21 Guilty Plea/Judge	11/19/21 Pre-Trial Conf.
03/24/21 SCOFFLAWED TO STATE	03/17/20 No Show To Be Scoffd	01/17/20 Pre-Trial Conf.
01/16/18 SCOFFLAWED TO STATE	01/15/18 No Show To Be Scoffd	11/15/17 1ST APPEAR V&T

Financial Transactions:

Bank Dt	Report Dt	Reason	Bail	Fine	Civ-Fee	Schg	Other	Rect/Ck#	Jdg
09/10/21	09/10/21	Scoff Lift Fee	0.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	0.00	TF18386	gpt
11/25/19	11/25/19	Scoff Lift Fee	0.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	0.00	TF15306	gpt

Letters Sent:

11/25/2019 PRETRIAL NOTICE - VTL/VIOLATION (053)	11/25/2019 NYS UT-26 (050)
09/10/2021 NYS UT-26 (050)	09/14/2021 Fine Notice (008)

Notes:

09/09/21 def called (hes a judge at Guilford, NY.) he is suspended again through us. I send him a CC form to fill out by email to pay the suspension. When we get the payment, please email letter 50 and receipt to the def. Also told def in email that he can contact ADA to resolve ticket. ac

Johnson City Village Court
31 Avenue C, Suite 2
Johnson City, NY 13790

Gregory P Thomas
Village Justice

Phone: (607) 798-0002

November 18, 2021

Jeremy L. Persons
[REDACTED]
Mount Upton, NY 13809

Case Number: 17100254
Viol. Date: 10/28/2017

Ticket Number	Statute/Section	Charge Text	Disposition	Fine	SurChg
2C317JZJZW	VTL 0306 B	NO INSP CERT	Fine/Fee	97.00	93.00
2C317JZJM8	VTL 0375 2A1	VIOL-LIGHTS	Fine/Fee	82.00	63.00

Total Due: \$ 335.00

Payment Due Date: 11/15/2021

**** (NO PERSONAL CHECKS OR PARTIAL PAYMENTS ACCEPTED) ****

This Court has accepted your guilty plea for the charges listed above. The listing also shows the fine(s) and mandatory surcharge imposed by New York State. Your payment of fines and surcharge must arrive in this Court before the due date shown above.

NO PERSONAL CHECKS ACCEPTED.

WE ACCEPT CASH, MONEY ORDERS, CERTIFIED CHECKS, CHARGE CARDS, CANADIANS MUST PAY IN US FUNDS! PLEASE RETURN THIS NOTICE WITH YOUR PAYMENT. ALONG WITH A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE. No partial payments on charge cards. Payments may be made online at PAYCOURTONLINE.COM or by calling 1-888-912-1541

If your drivers license is currently suspended due to your 'scofflaw status' failure to answer summons in this court. The state mandated scofflaw lift fee indicated above must be paid in full to restore your driving privileges.

******PLEASE MAKE CERTIFIED CHECKS AND MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO JOHNSON CITY VILLAGE COURT.**

CREDIT CARD: BILLING ZIPCODE: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____ 3 CHARACTER CODE: _____

CARD HOLDER: _____ CARD NUMBER: _____
(Print Name As It Appears On Card)

I hereby accept the fine amount (s) imposed by the Court and authorized payment thereof on the above-noted credit card. NOTE: Should a bank reject your transaction a suspension will be issued without further notice.

(Signature As It Appears On Card)

Notice of Credit Card Service Fee A service fee of 2.99% of the payment amount will be assessed on all credit card payments. Payments may continue to be made by cash or by a cashier/certified check without imposition of a service fee. Note that neither the municipality nor the court receives any portion of the service fee. If you use a credit card, there will be two transaction receipts generated, one for the court fine and one for the service fee. The cardholder must sign both receipts in order for the payment to be processed.

Pursuant to Vehicle and Traffic Law section 1802(2), you may be permitted to pay any fines, fees or surcharges via a monthly installment payment plan when you are 1) convicted of a Vehicle and Traffic Law offense or 2) convicted of a local law, ordinance, order, rule or regulation related to traffic. The judge sets the monthly payment amount. The minimum payment is \$25/month or up to 2% of your net monthly income, whichever is higher. No additional charges or interest are added. You may be required to submit a Financial Disclosure Report to get an installment plan. You may be required to appear in court no more than once per year for the judge to assess your financial circumstances, and your monthly payment amount may increase or decrease if your income changes. You can ask the court to reduce your monthly payment amount no more than twice per calendar year if your income decreases.

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

EXHIBIT F

Document # LWEB0705
PRINT DATE: 7/11/2022 TIME: 11:47:26 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

NAME ON LICENSE/ID: PERSONS
JEREMY, L

LICENSE CLASS: *D*
COMMERCIAL STATUS: SUSPENDED

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/11/2025

PERMIT CLASS: M
APPLICATION DATE: 02/04/2005
ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 02/04/2006

PERMIT CLASS: A
APPLICATION DATE: 10/12/2001
ENDORSEMENTS: PASSENGER
RESTRICTIONS: CDL INTRASTATE ONLY

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/04/2003

SUSP/REV SUMMARY: TOTAL 1 (SCOFFS 0 ON 0 DATES) JUDGEMENT \$ 0

***** ACTIVITY *****
CDL B 10/09/2009 ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

CLASS CHANGE: 09/14/1992	NEW: *DJ*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 04/15/1996	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/12/2001	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/09/2009	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 06/03/2014	NEW: *D*	OLD: CDL *B*

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Mark J.F. Schroeder

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0705

PRINT DATE: 7/11/2022 TIME: 11:47:26 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L

MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M

HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE

COUNTY: CHEN

MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

***** SUSPENSIONS/REVOCATIONS *****

SUSPENSION: 01/01/2021 INSURANCE LAPSE ORDER #: C2012190000

SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8

LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY

CLEAR ON: 09/14/2021 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW

LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY

CLEAR ON: 09/14/2021 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

SUSPENSION: 07/17/2019 FAILURE TO PAY FINE ORDER #: Z2C2680NFWB

LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION

CLEAR ON: 07/30/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFPG

LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION

CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFWB

LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION

CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8

LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY

CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW

LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY

CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

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Mark J.F. Schroeder

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0705
PRINT DATE: 7/11/2022 TIME: 11:47:26 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

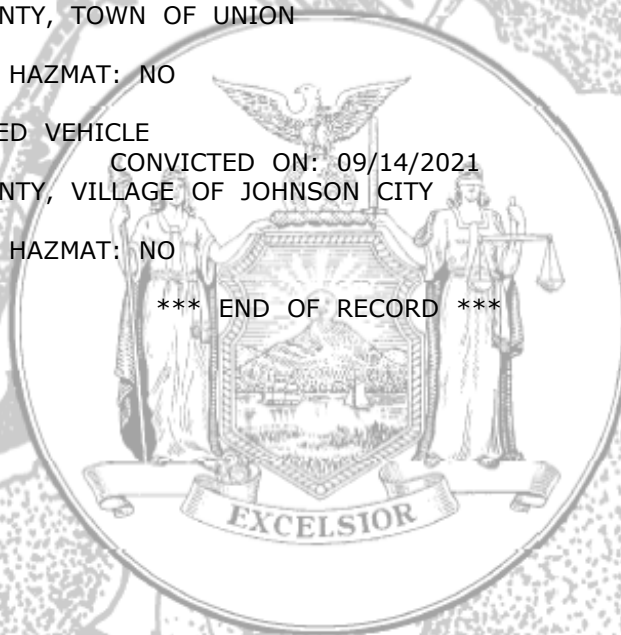
CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

***** CONVICTIONS/BAIL FORFEITURES *****

CONVICTION: OPERAT W/O A LICENSE
VIOLATION: 03/06/2018 CONVICTED ON: 03/12/2019
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
PENALTY: FINE- \$127
COMM VEH: NO HAZMAT: NO

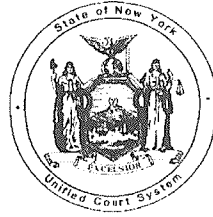
CONVICTION: UNINSPECTED VEHICLE
VIOLATION: 10/28/2017 CONVICTED ON: 09/14/2021
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
PENALTY:
COMM VEH: NO HAZMAT: NO

*** END OF RECORD ***



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Mark J.F. Schroeder



ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Pursuant to the authority vested in me, I hereby direct that (1) all judicial matters currently pending before the Hon. Jeremy Persons, Justice of the Town Court of the Town of Guilford, Chenango County, be reassigned to such other judge or judges as the Hon. Eugene D. Faughnan, Administrative Judge of the Sixth Judicial District, shall direct; (2) no additional judicial matters be assigned to the Hon. Jeremy Persons until further order of the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge; and (3) the Hon. Jeremy Persons shall be confined to judicial chambers until further order of the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. St. George".

Hon. Norman St. George
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
For the Courts Outside New York City

Dated: October 15, 2021

AO/298/2021

OFFICE OF COURT
ADMINISTRATION

AGENCY BUILDING 4
20TH FLOOR
EMPIRE STATE PLAZA
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12223



ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Order No. AO/298/2021
distributed to:

Hon. Eugene D. Faughnan
Hon. Jeremy Persons
Hon. Karen E. Osborn
Porter Kirkwood, Esq.
Nancy Sunukjian, Esq.
Scott M. Murphy
Haydee Marrero, UCS Executive Offices, NYC

OFFICE OF COURT
ADMINISTRATION

AGENCY BUILDING 4
20TH FLOOR
EMPIRE STATE PLAZA
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12223

State of New York
Unified Court System



25 Beaver Street
New York, N.Y. 10004
(212) 428-2100

Lawrence K. Marks
Chief Administrative Judge

June 16, 2022

Hon. Eugene D. Faughnan
Sixth District Administrative Judge
31 Lewis Street, 5th Floor
Binghamton, New York 13901

Dear Judge Faughnan:

The Unified Court System's Internal Audit Services office has audited the financial records and internal controls of the Guilford Town Court related to cash receipts and disbursements for the period January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. The audit was made at the request of the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Courts outside New York City due to allegations receipts may not have been processed appropriately by one of the Town Court Justices.

Enclosed is a copy of the final report and recommendations. The response to the preliminary audit report states your Office concurs with the audit findings. Your Office should work with the Court to develop a plan which will enable the Court to implement the recommendations. Your Office should submit to the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Courts outside New York City a corrective action plan, with a copy to the Chief Internal Auditor and the Office of Justice Court Support. The Internal Audit Services office will review the draft plan and, if appropriate, recommend revisions to your Office and the Court. OJCS, with assistance of the District Office, will monitor implementation of the plan.

Within six months of issuance of the final corrective plan, Internal Audit staff will schedule a follow-up audit to review implementation progress and will issue a supplementary report to Judge St. George.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the New York State UCS. It should not be distributed or used outside of the UCS without the permission of the UCS.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lawrence K. Marks".

/smw

c: Hon. Norman St. George
Hon. Elizabeth Burns
Hon. George Seneck
Hon. Karen Osborn
Hon. Jeremy Persons

Scott Murphy
Jennifer DiLallo
Porter Kirkwood, Esq.
Sherrill Spatz, Esq.
Daniel Johnson, CPA

NEW YORK STATE
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES

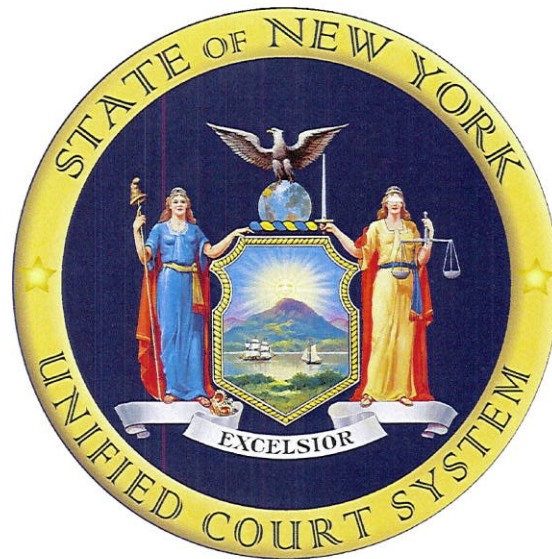


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Executive Summary

Audit Objective

The objective of our audit was to examine the financial records and internal controls of the Guilford Town Court (Court) for the period January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 to determine if all payments made to the Court were properly received, recorded, deposited, and transmitted in accordance with established procedures.

Summary of Audit Results

Judge Persons did not reconcile his combined fine/fee and bail bank account and as of September 30, 2021, the account contained a \$1,220 shortage, which was primarily due to recordkeeping errors. However, one receipt (P0205) for \$143 for index 21030019 showed it was received by Judge Persons on April 22, 2021, but was not deposited into the bank account.

The Court did not provide accountability over its automated receipt forms and the forms did not meet the requirements outlined in the Handbook for Town and Village Justices and Court Clerks (Handbook). Also, the Justices were responsible for all aspects of the cash receipt process without any independent review and approval. In addition, Judge Persons did not always deposit receipts within the 72-hour requirement and did not always disburse the monthly revenues to the Town by the tenth day of each month. Lastly, the Justices deleted case and checkbook records from the Court's case management system, the CourtRoom Program (Cashbook), without explanation or independent approval.

Introduction

Audit Scope

The Unified Court System’s Internal Audit Services office has audited the financial records and internal controls of the Guilford Town Court related to cash receipts and disbursements for the period January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. The audit was made at the request of the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Courts outside New York City due to allegations receipts may not have been processed appropriately by Judge Persons.

Due to Judge Persons’ unwillingness to cooperate with the audit, the scope of our audit was limited as we were unable to fully assess the internal controls related to cash receipts and disbursements for his Court Part. On October 7, 2021, Judge Persons agreed to scan and email us copies of his financial records (e.g., bank statements, Cashbook deposit slips, etc.). However, after two weeks of phone calls and emails by our office and the Sixth District Administrative Judge’s Office (District Office), Judge Persons did not respond or scan us copies of the requested financial records.¹ On October 25, 2021, we subpoenaed NBT Bank for copies of Judge Persons’ Court financial records which were provided by the bank the next day. In addition, on January 28, 2022, our office mailed a certified letter to Judge Persons, requesting his cooperation in resolving the discrepancies in his combined fine/fee and bail bank account. The certified letter was unclaimed and returned to our office on February 23, 2022.

The scope was further limited as 3 of 43 case files requested for review could not be provided, and therefore, we could not determine whether the cases were processed appropriately.²

Background

Three Justices presided at the Court during the audit period. Bruce Windsor served from February 2016 through December 2020, Jeremy Persons began in January 2020, and Karen Osborn began in January 2021.³

The Justices and the Court are subject to the accounting and financial reporting guidelines established by the Office of the State Comptroller’s Division of Local Government and School Accountability Justice Court Fund (JCF) and the Handbook. The Court used an automated case management system, the CourtRoom Program, to record case and payment activities. During the audit period, the Court reported \$53,115 to the JCF for revenues and collected \$2,000 for bail.

¹ On October 15, 2021, the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Courts outside New York City ordered judicial matters pending before Judge Persons be reassigned for reasons unrelated to the audit.

² Indices 20060002, 20090016, and 21030007 were all assigned to Judge Persons.

³ There were no court clerks employed during the audit period.

Audit Results

Shortage in Judge Persons' Combined Fine/Fee and Bail Account

Judge Persons did not reconcile his combined fine/fee and bail bank account on a monthly basis which allowed for discrepancies to occur without detection and contributed to a \$1,220 shortage in his account as of September 30, 2021. Had Judge Persons, or someone independent from the cash handling process, reconciled his account and compared the Cashbook records to bank deposits, the following discrepancies could have been promptly identified and resolved.

Bank Account Reconciliation as of September 30, 2021	
Bank Statement Ending Balance: September 30, 2021	\$ 2,262
MINUS:	
September 2021 Revenues – Not Yet Reported	(686)
nCourt Payments – Not Yet Reported (see below)	(2,796)
Account Shortage	(\$1,220)

The \$1,220 account shortage was mostly attributable to four Cashbook entries which resulted in \$1,217 in payments being recorded into the Cashbook, reported to JCF, and disbursed to the Town, but were not deposited into this bank account.⁴ Of which, index 21030019 (\$143) could not be explained and the remaining three entries appear to be the result of recordkeeping errors.⁵

Index 21030019

The defendant's case file contained a copy of receipt form P0205 for \$143, dated April 22, 2021 and contained Judge Persons' initials as the cashier. The \$143 was included with the April 2021 revenues reported to the JCF and disbursed to the Town, but was not deposited into his bank account, creating a shortage. The Cashbook showed the payment was made in the form of cash. On January 28, 2022, Judge Persons confirmed he would normally initial the receipts when issued, but could not recall this specific receipt and could not explain why the money was not deposited.

Index 20060028

The Cashbook showed \$318 was receipted on September 10, 2020 and recorded as a cash payment, but a receipt number was not recorded for this payment entry. The \$318 could not be traced to a deposit, but was included with the September 2020 revenues reported to the JCF and disbursed to the Town, creating a shortage. We contacted the defendant

⁴ Judge Persons did not collect bail during the audit period or have pending bail in his bank account as of September 30, 2021.

⁵ Additional discrepancies accounting for the shortage included \$15 more receipted in the Cashbook than deposited in November 2020 for index 20060001 which was reported to the JCF and disbursed to the Town with the November 2020 revenues; an \$11 unidentified deposit in July 2021; and a \$1 deposit to open the account in January 2020.

who stated he never paid the Court and still owed the \$318. It is likely this receipt transaction was created in error.

Index 21030034

The Cashbook showed \$643 was receipted for two charges on April 22, 2021 and each payment was recorded as cash, but without receipt numbers being recorded. The \$643 could not be traced to a deposit, but was included with the April 2021 revenues reported to the JCF and disbursed to the Town creating a shortage. We contacted the defendant who stated he never paid the Court and still owed the \$643. It is likely this receipt transaction was also created in error.

Index 20090001

The Cashbook showed \$113 was receipted as a cash payment on October 1, 2020 and recorded without a receipt number. Our review supports the \$113 was reported to the JCF and disbursed to the Town with the October 2020 revenues, but could not be traced to a deposit, creating a shortage. The October 1, 2020 receipt was deleted from Judge Persons’ Cashbook on December 3, 2020, reentered the same day as a \$63 partial payment under receipt P00174, and deposited on December 14, 2020. The \$113 payment recorded in October 2020 was likely another Cashbook recording error.

While the previous transactions of \$1,217 contributed to the shortage in Judge Persons’ account, the account was not overdrawn because there were twelve nCourt payments, totaling \$2,796 deposited to the account, but were never receipted into the Cashbook, reported to the JCF or disbursed to the Town.⁶

#	Index Number	Amount Deposited	Deposit Date
1	20050019	\$ 300	10/5/20
2	20060006	243	10/20/20
3	21010003	293	3/16/21
4	20120005	200	3/30/21
5	20110010	163	3/30/21
6	21010015	143	4/6/21
7	21030043	300	4/22/21
8	20110037	168	4/22/21
9	21010041	300	4/29/21
10	21070015	143	9/2/21
11	21070034	300	9/14/21
12	21060031	243	9/27/21
	TOTAL	\$2,796	

⁶ The Court used nCourt, a third-party vendor, to allow defendants to pay their fines and fees on-line. Once paid, nCourt deposits the funds into the appropriate Justice’s account and emails the Court an activity report, outlining the defendants, ticket number, date paid, amount paid, and expected deposit date.

On January 28, 2022, Judge Persons stated he did not know he needed to download the nCourt payments into the CourtRoom Program in order for the payments to be receipted and posted to each defendant's case. Once posted, the nCourt receipts would be included with the monthly revenues reported to the JCF and disbursed to the Town.

Since Judge Persons did not reconcile his account, discrepancies between the Cashbook and adjusted bank account balances could not be promptly identified and resolved, increasing the risk for a theft to occur without detection.

In accordance with the Handbook, Judge Persons should reconcile his bank balance, on a monthly basis, verifying all monies collected were receipted, recorded, deposited, and disbursed properly. Any discrepancies identified should be immediately investigated and resolved.

Judge Persons should contact the JCF to apply for a refund, as prescribed by the Handbook, for indices 20060028, 20090001, and 21030034. Judge Persons should review the case file and receipt for index 21030019 to determine why the \$143 was not deposited. If an explanation cannot be determined, Judge Persons should discuss with the District Office and Town officials, options to replenish the \$143.

To avoid overdrawing the account and possibly incurring overdraft fees, Judge Persons should wait until the JCF grants the refunds before downloading and receipting the twelve nCourt payments (\$2,796) into the Cashbook. Once receipted into the Cashbook, the twelve nCourt payments should be reported to the JCF and disbursed to the Town with the monthly revenues. When nCourt activity reports are received by the Court, Judge Persons should download the payments into the Cashbook and reconcile the nCourt transactions and deposits to the Cashbook records.

If, for any reason (e.g., refund denied) Judge Persons does not have the funds available in his account to process the nCourt payments, Judge Persons should discuss with the District Office and Town officials, the options to replenish the shortage. Also, any moneys held in Judge Persons account which cannot be traced to a court case is considered unidentified money and should be reported as such to the JCF and disbursed to the Town (i.e., \$11 unidentified deposit).

In response to the preliminary report of audit findings, the District Office stated, "As Justice Persons continues to refuse communications with the court and the District Office, the District Office will work with Judge Osborn to contact the Justice Court Fund to generate a refund of the erroneous deposits and properly record and resolve the conflicts between the payments outlined in the preliminary audit report."

Receipts Were Not Always Deposited and Disbursed Timely

Judge Persons did not always deposit receipts within 72 hours, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, and did not always disburse his monthly revenues to the Town by the tenth day of the month, as required by the Handbook.⁷

A comparison of Judge Persons' Cashbook receipts to the corresponding deposit details for a sample of 29 receipts showed 19 receipts, totaling \$3,754, were deposited between 5 and 15 business days late (\$1,730 in cash and \$2,024 in checks/money orders).

Further, review of canceled checks showed 13 of the 18 disbursed to the Town by Judge Persons during the audit period were prepared between 4 and 101 calendar days late. For example, the disbursement for Judge Persons' November 2020 revenues, totaling \$2,875, was not written until January 28, 2021.

Delays in deposits to the bank and disbursements to the Town increases the risk for discrepancies to occur and go undetected, including but not limited to, the loss or theft of Court funds.

In accordance with the Handbook, Judge Persons should deposit all receipts within 72 hours, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, and disburse to the Town, all revenues by the 10th day of each month.

In response to the preliminary report of audit findings, the District Office stated, "Should Justice Persons return to active duty on the bench and begin communicating again with the District Office, the District Office will work with Justice Persons as part of a Corrective Action Plan to ensure that he is promptly making all deposits within seventy-two hours as required."

Receipt Forms Were Not Properly Controlled

The Court did not provide accountability over its automated receipt forms and the forms did not meet the Handbook requirements.

The Court used the unsecure version of the CourtRoom Program, which allowed the user to alter the receipt number field. The CourtRoom Program was used to generate two-part automated receipt forms. One receipt part was provided to the payer and the other receipt part was kept with the case file to evidence payment. However, the receipt forms were not printed on pre-numbered stationery and did not identify the method of payment (e.g., cash, check, money order), as required by the Handbook.

⁷ We were unable to determine whether Judge Persons reported revenues to the JCF by the 10th day of each month as the transmittal sheets documenting the reporting date were not provided.

Further, review of the receipt number sequences in use during the audit period showed ten receipt numbers were missing from the Cashbook and could not be explained (i.e., seven for Judge Persons; three for Judge Osborn).⁸ In addition, there were four instances where Judge Persons issued the same receipt number for different payments made to his Court Part. For example, the Cashbook showed Judge Persons issued receipt P0201 on March 25, 2021 for \$243 for index 20120008 and then again on July 20, 2021 for \$300 for index 20110012.

As a result, automated receipt forms could have been edited, reused, and/or omitted from the Cashbook to conceal the theft of Court funds.

If the Court continues to use the unsecure version of the CourtRoom Program, pre-numbered receipt forms should be used. Also, receipt forms should identify the method of payment, as prescribed by the Handbook.

In response to the preliminary report of audit findings, the District Office stated, “The court has since upgraded to the secure version of CourtRoom Program to resolve this issue and will continue using the secure version in the future.”

Cash Handling Responsibilities Were Not Separated

Judges Persons and Osborn were responsible for all aspects of the Cash receipt process for their Court Part, without any independent review and approval.

For their Court Part, each Justice was responsible for collecting payments, issuing receipts, recording and deleting case and payment activities into the Cashbook, preparing and making deposits, preparing and signing revenue and bail checks, printing monthly JCF revenue reports, and completing monthly bank reconciliations for their respective Court Parts.

As a result, payments made to the Court could have been misappropriated without detection.

The Justices should coordinate with each other to separate key aspects of their cash receipt process to prevent one Justice from having complete control over cash related duties for their Court Part.

In response to the preliminary report of audit findings, the District Office stated, “Since the inception of the audit the court has hired a court clerk who has been made a part of aspects of the cash-handling process. A Corrective Action Plan will be developed and implemented to ensure that these duties continue to be segregated properly going forward.”

⁸Our office provided Judge Osborn with the ten missing receipt numbers for her to determine if there was an explanation or support for the missing receipt numbers.

Case and Checkbook Records Were Deleted from the Cashbook

The Court's data showed 39 case and 80 checkbook records were deleted from the Court's Cashbook without a reason being documented and without independent review and approval.

Of the 39 deleted case records, the Cashbook showed Judge Osborn deleted 19, Judge Persons deleted 14, and 6 deleted by Judge Windsor. A sample of 33 deleted case records showed 32 of the records were likely deleted to correct recordkeeping errors and were accounted for in the Court's Cashbook. However, index 21030037 was for a small claims case and was entered into Judge Persons' Cashbook on March 25, 2021, deleted the same day, and not reentered. The Court's data did not show a small claims fee was receipted for this case and we could not determine whether there was an acceptable reason for the case being deleted. Further, the paper case file for index 21030037 could not be located.

Of the 80 deleted checkbook records, the Cashbook showed Judge Persons deleted 62, Judge Osborn deleted 11, and 7 deleted by Judge Windsor. A review of 11 deleted checkbook records with the highest risk for Court funds being misappropriated showed the records were likely deleted to correct recordkeeping errors and were accounted for in the Court's Cashbook.

Without independent review over key aspects of the cash receipt process performed by each Justice, there is an increased risk for the deletion of case and checkbook records to conceal the theft of funds.

The Justices should develop case management practices which provide for accurate and complete recording of case and financial activity. Practices should provide for an audit trail of record changes after establishing a case number and/or the recording of payment activity. At least monthly, the Cashbook report, identifying deleted checkbook records, should be reviewed by someone other than the person who deleted the checkbook records to verify the deletions were appropriate and supported.

In response to the preliminary report of audit findings, the District Office stated, "As previously indicated, the court has since upgraded to the secure version of CourtRoom Program. Going forward the court will ensure that a report is generated to identify the reasons for any checkbook record alterations, as part of a Corrective Action Plan."

Summary of Recommendations

1. In accordance with the Handbook, Judge Persons should reconcile his bank balance, on a monthly basis, verifying all monies collected were receipted, recorded, deposited, and disbursed properly. Any discrepancies identified should be immediately investigated and resolved.
2. Judge Persons should contact the JCF to apply for a refund, as prescribed by the Handbook, for indices 20060028, 20090001, and 21030034.
3. Judge Persons should review the case file and receipt for index 21030019 to determine why the \$143 was not deposited. If an explanation cannot be determined, Judge Persons should discuss with the District Office and Town officials, options to replenish the \$143.
4. To avoid overdrawing the account and possibly incurring overdraft fees, Judge Persons should wait until the JCF grants the refunds before downloading and receipting the twelve nCourt payments (\$2,796) into the Cashbook. Once receipted into the Cashbook, the twelve nCourt payments should be reported to the JCF and disbursed to the Town with the monthly revenues. When nCourt activity reports are received by the Court, Judge Persons should download the payments into the Cashbook and reconcile the nCourt transactions and deposits to the Cashbook records.
5. If, for any reason (e.g., refund denied) Judge Persons does not have the funds available in his account to process the nCourt payments, Judge Persons should discuss with the District Office and Town officials, the options to replenish the shortage.
6. Any moneys held in Judge Persons account which cannot be traced to a court case is considered unidentified money and should be reported as such to the JCF and disbursed to the Town (i.e., \$11 unidentified deposit).
7. In accordance with the Handbook, Judge Persons should deposit all receipts within 72 hours, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, and disburse to the Town, all revenues by the 10th day of each month.
8. If the Court continues to use the unsecure version of the CourtRoom Program, pre-numbered receipt forms should be used. Also, receipt forms should identify the method of payment, as prescribed by the Handbook.
9. The Justices should coordinate with each other to separate key aspects of their cash receipt process to prevent one Justice from having complete control over cash related duties for their Court Part.

10. The Justices should develop case management practices which provide for accurate and complete recording of case and financial activity. Practices should provide for an audit trail of record changes after establishing a case number and/or the recording of payment activity.
11. At least monthly, the Cashbook report, identifying deleted checkbook records, should be reviewed by someone other than the person who deleted the checkbook records to verify the deletions were appropriate and supported.

Discussion of Audit Results

Matters presented in this report were discussed with the Sixth District Office officials, and Judge Osborn. A preliminary report of audit findings was issued to the Sixth District Administrative Judge. The response to the preliminary audit report states although Judge Persons still refuses to communicate with the Sixth District Office, the District Office and Judge Osborn agree with the findings and recommendations.

Internal control deficiencies, which were not significant to the audit objectives, were not included in this report, but were discussed with the officials from the Sixth District Office and Judge Osborn.

Audit Standards and Methodology

Except for the scope limitations cited in this report, we conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. Unless otherwise indicated in this report, samples for testing were selected based on professional judgment, as it was not the intent to project the results onto the entire population.

The objective was to determine if all payments made to the Court for the period January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 were receipted, recorded, deposited, and transmitted in accordance with established procedures. To achieve this objective, our audit procedures included the following steps:

- We obtained a copy of the Court's Cashbook data and created an extract of the transactions recorded during the audit period. This data included, but was not limited to checkbook files, criminal, traffic, and civil case management records.
- We believe our efforts to corroborate the data to source documents supports the data was sufficiently reliable for this report. For example, using the extract of records from the Cashbook:
 - We selected samples of cases, which significantly supported our audit objectives, as well as, to determine whether payment, adjudication, and disposition details documented on the paper case files agreed with the Court's data.
 - We determined if all recorded receipts were deposited, and index numbers were properly recorded and accounted for and assessed whether deleted case and payment activity could be explained.
- We examined the bank statements, deposit details, automated receipts, and Cashbook records. We compared the amounts recorded to the amounts deposited, as well as the amounts remitted to the Town.



NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

JOSEPH W. BELLUCK, CHAIR
TAA GRAYS, VICE CHAIR
HON. FERNANDO M. CAMACHO
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MEMBERS
CELIA A. ZAHNER, CLERK

CORNING TOWER, SUITE 2301
EMPIRE STATE PLAZA
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ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN
ADMINISTRATOR & COUNSEL

CATHLEEN S. CENCI
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR
S. PETER PEDROTTY
KATHLEEN E. KLEIN
SENIOR ATTORNEYS

CONFIDENTIAL

June 23, 2021

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780-9793

Re: File No. 2021/A-0147

Dear Judge Persons:

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct is investigating a complaint that you failed to file reports or remit funds to the Office of the State Comptroller in the time required by law, for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, and that your salary was stopped on May 20, 2021. A copy of the stop-salary notice is enclosed.

For your reference, the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct, the Commission's Operating Procedures and Rules, the Commission's Policy Manual and other documents are available on the Commission's website.¹

In connection with this matter, the Commission requests that you respond to the following questions, in writing, by July 21, 2021. The Commission requests that you personally respond to each question, even if you have already submitted your overdue report or reports. In your letter, please include answers to the questions below and number your responses to correspond to the questions. Please note that, pursuant to Section 2.6(D)(3) of the Commission's Policy Manual, if your written reply is submitted by counsel, you must co-sign or submit a separate statement indicating that you have read and adopt it.

¹ <http://www.cjc.ny.gov/Legal.Authorities/legal.authorities.htm>

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

June 23, 2021

Page 2

1. Did you fail to file reports to the State Comptroller in the time required by Section 27 of the Town Law, as indicated in the attached stop-salary notice? If so, please state why you failed to file the reports as required.

2. Did you dispose of cases during December 2020 and March 2021? If so, please provide the Commission with a list of completed cases which you failed to report to the State Comptroller and a statement as to the amount of money collected for each case.

3. During the above period, did you receive fines or other funds that must be remitted to the State Comptroller? If so, please provide the Commission with a copy of your cashbook for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, and with copies of receipts, deposit slips, and bank statements indicating when the above funds were received, and when the funds were deposited into your court account.

Please number each answer to correspond to the question you are answering. Feel free to include any information that you may believe is relevant.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Cathleen S. Cenci
Deputy Administrator

Enclosure

VIA EMAIL TO: [REDACTED] [@NYCOURTS.GOV](mailto:[REDACTED]@NYCOURTS.GOV) AND UPS



NYS Comptroller
THOMAS P. DINAPOLI

Office of the NEW YORK
STATE COMPTROLLER

Division of Local Government and School Accountability
Elliott Auerbach, Deputy Comptroller

May 20, 2021

George Seneck
Supervisor
Town of Guilford
223 Marble Rd
Guilford NY 13780

Re: Justice ID 0833560497P
Honorable Jeremy Persons

Dear Supervisor:

This is official notification that the above referenced Justice has not properly reported to the State Comptroller for the following month(s):

December 2020, March 2021

Pursuant to Section 27 of the Town Law and Section 4-410 of the Village Law, every town and village justice must file a report monthly with the State Comptroller. The report, certification, or remittance, if any, is due by the tenth of the month following the report month (e.g., the April report is due by the tenth of May). A report must be sent even if it is to indicate that no activity occurred in that month. In the event that a justice fails to properly account for any moneys received by such justice, the chief fiscal officer will be notified. Upon receipt of such notice from the State Comptroller, it shall be unlawful for the town or village to make any further payment of compensation to such justice until receipt of a notice from the Comptroller that a proper accounting has been made.

No further compensation should be made to this Justice until further notice from this office. Please sign the attached copy of this notification and return it to:

**Office of the State Comptroller
Justice Court Fund
110 State Street
Albany, NY 12236**

Sincerely,

Antoinette Villani
Manager
Justice Court Fund

encl

cc: Honorable Jeremy Persons
Binghamton Regional Office, Office of the State Comptroller
Honorable Nancy Sunukjian, Office of Court Administration
Honorable Brian D Burns, 6th Judicial District
Chief Council, Commission on Judicial Conduct

Office of the New York State Comptroller
110 State Street - Albany, NY 12236

866-321-8503, option 2
courtfund@osc.ny.gov

Letitia Walsh

From: UPS <pkginfo@ups.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 3:08 PM
To: Letitia Walsh
Subject: UPS Delivery Notification, Tracking Number 1ZV57A910193161442



Hello, your package has been delivered.

Delivery Date: Thursday, 06/24/2021
Delivery Time: 03:06 PM
Left At: OFFICE
Signed by: HWY DEPT

NYS COMM ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Tracking Number: [1ZV57A910193161442](#)
Ship To: HON. JEREMY L. PERSONS
223 MARBLE ROAD
GUILFORD, NY 13780
US
Number of Packages: 1
UPS Service: UPS Next Day Air®
Package Weight: 1.0 LBS
Reference Number: LW



[Download the UPS mobile app](#)

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Proof of Delivery

Dear Customer,

This notice serves as proof of delivery for the shipment listed below.

Tracking Number

1ZV57A910193161442

Weight

1.00 LBS

Service

UPS Next Day Air®

Shipped / Billed On

06/23/2021

Delivered On

06/24/2021 3:06 P.M.

Delivered To

GUILFORD, NY, US

Received By

HWY DEPT

Left At

Office

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to serve you. Details are only available for shipments delivered within the last 120 days. Please print for your records if you require this information after 120 days.

Sincerely,

UPS

Tracking results provided by UPS: 06/24/2021 3:14 P.M. EST

GUILFORD TOWN COURT

223 Marble Rd

Guilford New York 13780

Hon. Jeremy Persons

Hon. Karen Osborn

Tel 607-895-6831 Fax 607-895-6832

Re: Hon Jeremy Persons
File #. 2021/A-0147

P.S. Please allow me an extension on completing the Answers to questions # 2 and 3. I am seeking help from my special Council

Thank You
Hon. Jeremy Persons



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

JOSEPH W. BELLUCK, CHAIR
TAA GRAYS, VICE CHAIR
HON. FERNANDO M. CAMACHO
JODIE CORNGOLD
HON. JOHN A. FALK
HON. ANGELA M. MAZZARELLI
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SENIOR ATTORNEYS

CONFIDENTIAL

June 23, 2021

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780-9793

Re: File No. 2021/A-0147

Dear Judge Persons:

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct is investigating a complaint that you failed to file reports or remit funds to the Office of the State Comptroller in the time required by law, for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, and that your salary was stopped on May 20, 2021. A copy of the stop-salary notice is enclosed.

For your reference, the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct, the Commission's Operating Procedures and Rules, the Commission's Policy Manual and other documents are available on the Commission's website.¹

In connection with this matter, the Commission requests that you respond to the following questions, in writing, by July 21, 2021. The Commission requests that you personally respond to each question, even if you have already submitted your overdue report or reports. In your letter, please include answers to the questions below and number your responses to correspond to the questions. Please note that, pursuant to Section 2.6(D)(3) of the Commission's Policy Manual, if your written reply is submitted by counsel, you must co-sign or submit a separate statement indicating that you have read and adopt it.

¹ <http://www.cjc.ny.gov/Legal.Authorities/legal.authorities.htm>

NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

June 23, 2021

Page 2

1. Did you fail to file reports to the State Comptroller in the time required by Section 27 of the Town Law, as indicated in the attached stop-salary notice? If so, please state why you failed to file the reports as required.

1 - Yes I failed to submit my report for the month of March 2021. The report for December 2020 was submitted in January 2021, however it was not accepted at the time. The issue was with date I entered wrong on the report sent to the Comptrollers office. It has since been fixed. Starting last year I started to become ill. I had many tests done with no luck finding what was wrong. Then in late February early March, I started getting really ill. Many nights I wasn't able to hold court due to being ill. Finally I was hospitalized with a very severe case of Double Pneumonia. While i was in the hospital the Dr's actually found what had been ailing me. The had discovered that my lungs were completely FULL of Blood Clots. Was actually told by one Dr if i hadn't come in when i did, I would probably have died soon after. My Co-Judge actually held court for me on a few nights.


I have since gotten all Caught up on Financial Records

2. Did you dispose of cases during December 2020 and March 2021? If so, please provide the Commission with a list of completed cases which you failed to report to the State Comptroller and a statement as to the amount of money collected for each case.

2 - I am trying to get with my special council on help with questions number 2&3.

I will stay in touch and get the second two Answers finished

3. During the above period, did you be remitted to the State Comptroller? If so, please provide a copy of your cashbook for the months of [redacted] with copies of receipts, deposit slips, and above funds were received, and when the account.



funds that must be submitted to the Commission with a copy of the cashbook for March 2021, and a statement as to the amount of money coming into your court

Cathleen S. Cenci

Deputy Administrator

Please number each answer to correspond to the question you are answering. Feel free to include any information that you may believe is relevant.

Enclosure

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

VIA EMAIL TO: [redacted]@NYCOURTS.GOV AND UPS

Very truly yours,



May 20, 2021

George Seneck
Supervisor
Town of Guilford
223 Marble Rd
Guilford NY 13780

Re: Justice ID 0833560497P
Honorable Jeremy Persons

Dear Supervisor:

This is official notification that the above referenced Justice has not properly reported to the State Comptroller for the following month(s):

December 2020, March 2021

Pursuant to Section 27 of the Town Law and Section 4-410 of the Village Law, every town and village justice must file a report monthly with the State Comptroller. The report, certification, or remittance, if any, is due by the tenth of the month following the report month (e.g., the April report is due by the tenth of May). A report must be sent even if it is to indicate that no activity occurred in that month. In the event that a justice fails to properly account for any moneys received by such justice, the chief fiscal officer will be notified. Upon receipt of such notice from the State Comptroller, it shall be unlawful for the town or village to make any further payment of compensation to such justice until receipt of a notice from the Comptroller that a proper accounting has been made.

No further compensation should be made to this Justice until further notice from this office. Please sign the attached copy of this notification and return it to:

**Office of the State Comptroller
Justice Court Fund
110 State Street
Albany, NY 12236**

Sincerely,

Antoinette Villani
Manager
Justice Court Fund

encl

cc: Honorable Jeremy Persons
Binghamton Regional Office, Office of the State Comptroller
Honorable Nancy Sunukjian, Office of Court Administration
Honorable Brian D Burns, 6th Judicial District
Chief Council, Commission on Judicial Conduct

Office of the New York State Comptroller
110 State Street - Albany, NY 12236

866-321-8503, option 2
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SENIOR ATTORNEYS

CONFIDENTIAL

August 26, 2021

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780-9793

Re: File No. 2021/A-0147, 2021/A-0178

Dear Judge Persons:

The Commission has reviewed your July 23, 2021, letter regarding complaint number 2021/A-0147 and requests your additional written response. The Commission is also investigating a complaint alleging that your driver's license was suspended in January 2021 and April 2021 for lapsed insurance and for failure to answer a summons in the Village of Johnson City and requests your written response pertaining to that complaint.

Enclosed is a copy of the Administrator's Complaint, 2021/A-0178. For your reference, the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct, the Commission's Operating Procedures and Rules, the Commission's Policy Manual and other documents are available on the Commission's website.¹

In your letter, please include answers to the questions below and number your responses to correspond to the questions. Please note that, pursuant to Section 2.6(D)(3) of the Commission's Policy Manual, if your written reply is

¹ <http://www.cjc.ny.gov/Legal.Authorities/legal.authorities.htm>

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

August 26, 2021

Page 2

submitted by counsel, you must co-sign or submit a separate statement indicating that you have read and adopt it.

Regarding the Complaint by the Office of the State Comptroller (File No. 2021/A-0147)

1. When were you hospitalized as indicated in your response to question 1 of the Commission's June 23, 2021, letter? Specifically, please summarize the timeline of when you became seriously ill relative to when the December 2020 and March 2021 reports to the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) were due and elaborate on why the reports were not filed timely.

2. When did you become unable to hold court and what was the timeframe when you were on medical leave from your judicial position? If you have since resumed your judicial duties, please indicate when you did so and whether you have resumed your duties in full, explaining any changes to court operations as a result of your illness.

3. Have you filed your December 2020 and March 2021 monthly reports to the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC)? If so, when did you file the reports and has OSC directed resumption of your salary? Please provide copies of the reports with your response to this letter.

Per your request for additional time to answer questions 2 and 3 of the Commission's June 23, 2021, letter, please respond to the following questions and provide the requested records with your response to this letter:

4. Did you dispose of cases during December 2020 and March 2021? If so, please provide the Commission with a list of completed cases which you failed to report to the State Comptroller and a statement as to the amount of money collected for each case.

5. During the above periods, did you receive fines or other funds that must be remitted to the State Comptroller? If so, please provide the Commission with a copy of your cashbook for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, and with copies of receipts, deposit slips, and bank statements indicating when the above funds were received, and when the funds were deposited into your court account.

Regarding the Administrator's Complaint (File No. 2021/A-0178)

6. Directing your attention to the Abstract of Driving Record ("abstract") attached to the enclosed Administrator's Complaint, do you now or have you ever held a commercial driver's license and/or permit? If so, what licenses or permits did you hold and when? Please also describe the purpose for each such license, such as whether you are or were employed as a commercial driver and in what capacity.

7. On or about January 1, 2021, was your driver's license suspended for lapsed insurance as indicated by the abstract? If so, please answer the following questions:

- A. Why was your license suspended?
- B. When and how did you learn of this suspension?
- C. Have you taken any action to have this suspension lifted? If so, please describe in detail what you did and when and indicate whether the suspension remains in effect at the time of your response to this letter.

8. On or about April 30, 2021, was your driver's license suspended for failure to answer two summonses in the Village of Johnson City as indicated by the abstract? If so, please answer the following questions:

- A. Were you charged with violations of the Vehicle and Traffic Law in connection with this suspension? If so, what violations were you charged with and when?
- B. Did you fail to appear in court and/or respond to the charges? If so, when were you due to appear or respond and why did you not do so?
- C. When and how did you learn of this license suspension?
- D. Have you taken any action to have this suspension lifted? If so, please describe in detail what you did and when and

indicate whether this suspension remains in effect at the time of your response to this letter.

- E. What is the status of the charges? Please summarize the procedural history of the case, and if the charges are pending, indicate when the case is next returnable in court. If the charges have been disposed, please provide all details of how the matter was resolved, including the disposition of each charge and whether any fines have been paid or remain outstanding.

9. Have you driven a motor vehicle while either of the above-mentioned suspensions of your driver's license were in effect? If so, please explain when and why. Please also indicate in what capacity you have driven, such as for personal reasons and/or in connection with any commercial driving as covered in your response to question 6.

10. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.2(A) of the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct ("Rules"), which requires that a judge respect and comply with the law and to act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary? Please explain your response.

11. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.3(B)(1) of the Rules, which requires that a judge be faithful to the law and maintain a professional competence in it? Please explain your response.

12. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.3(C)(1) which requires a judge to diligently discharge his administrative responsibilities and to maintain professional competence in judicial administration? Please explain your response.

13. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.4(A) of the Rules, which provides that a judge shall conduct all of the judge's extra-judicial activities so that they do not cause reasonable doubt to the judge's capacity to act impartially as a judge, detract from the dignity of judicial office or interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties and are not incompatible with judicial office? Please explain your response.

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

August 26, 2021

Page 5

Please feel free to include any relevant information or material that you wish the Commission to consider in connection with this matter.

Please respond in writing to this inquiry by September 10, 2021. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cenci', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cathleen S. Cenci
Deputy Administrator

Enclosures

VIA EMAIL TO: [REDACTED] [@NYCOURTS.GOV](mailto:[REDACTED]@NYCOURTS.GOV) AND UPS

ADMINISTRATOR'S COMPLAINT

In the Matter of: Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
Chenango County

Complaint # 2021/A-0178

Statutory Authorization

This complaint is filed at the direction of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct in compliance with Section 44, subdivision 2, of the Judiciary Law and is intended to serve as the basis for an investigation. In accordance with Section 44, subdivision 3, in the event that the above-named judge is required to appear before the Commission or any of its members or staff, this complaint will be served at the time the judge is notified in writing of the required appearance.

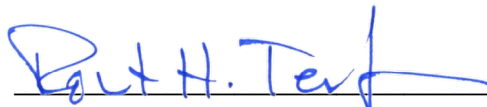
This complaint is not an accusatory instrument. It provides a basis to commence an investigation. Thus, a judge under investigation may be required to reply to other allegations in addition to those set forth below.

Complaint

Based upon records of the Department of Motor Vehicles and the attached driving abstract reviewed in the course of investigating another complaint against Judge Persons, it is alleged that the judge's driver's license was suspended in January and April 2021 for lapsed insurance and for failure to answer a summons in the Village of Johnson City.

New York, New York

Date Signed: August 12, 2021



Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator

Authorized on August 5, 2021

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0267
PRINT DATE: 6/21/2021 TIME: 09:53:59 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

NAME ON LICENSE/ID: PERSONS
JEREMY, L

LICENSE CLASS: *D*
COMMERCIAL STATUS: SUSPENDED

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/11/2025

PERMIT CLASS: M
APPLICATION DATE: 02/04/2005
ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 02/04/2006

PERMIT CLASS: A
APPLICATION DATE: 10/12/2001
ENDORSEMENTS: PASSENGER
RESTRICTIONS: CDL INTRASTATE ONLY

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/04/2003

SUSP/REV SUMMARY: TOTAL 3 (SCOFFS 2 ON 1 DATES) JUDGEMENT \$ 0

***** ACTIVITY *****
CDL B 10/09/2009 ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

CLASS CHANGE: 09/14/1992	NEW: *DJ*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 04/15/1996	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/12/2001	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/09/2009	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 06/03/2014	NEW: *D*	OLD: CDL *B*

This is to certify that this document is a true and complete copy of an electronic record on file in the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York. The record was made in regular course of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles daily business. It is the business of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles to create and maintain the records of drivers in the state of New York. Entries in this document are made at the time the recorded transactions or events took place or within a reasonable time thereafter. The person who reports the information is under a business duty to do so accurately.

Mark J.F. Schroeder

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0267

PRINT DATE: 6/21/2021 TIME: 09:53:59 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

***** SUSPENSIONS/REVOCATIONS *****

- SUSPENSION: 01/01/2021 INSURANCE LAPSE ORDER #: C2012190000
- SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
- SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
- SUSPENSION: 07/17/2019 FAILURE TO PAY FINE ORDER #: Z2C2680NFWB
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 07/30/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFPG
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFWB
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

***** CONVICTIONS/BAIL FORFEITURES *****

CONVICTION: OPERAT W/O A LICENSE
VIOLATION: 03/06/2018 CONVICTED ON: 03/12/2019
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
PENALTY: FINE- \$127
COMM VEH: NO HAZMAT: NO

*** END OF RECORD ***

This is to certify that this document is a true and complete copy of an electronic record on file in the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York. The record was made in regular course of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles daily business. It is the business of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles to create and maintain the records of drivers in the state of New York. Entries in this document are made at the time the recorded transactions or events took place or within a reasonable time thereafter. The person who reports the information is under a business duty to do so accurately.

Mark J.F. Schroeder

Proof of Delivery

Dear Customer,

This notice serves as proof of delivery for the shipment listed below.

Tracking Number

1ZV57A910190806564

Weight

1.00 LBS

Service

UPS Next Day Air®

Shipped / Billed On

08/26/2021

Delivered On

08/27/2021 3:41 P.M.

Delivered To

GUILFORD, NY, US

Received By

MAILBOX

Left At

Office

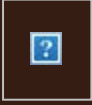
Thank you for giving us this opportunity to serve you. Details are only available for shipments delivered within the last 120 days. Please print for your records if you require this information after 120 days.

Sincerely,

UPS

Tracking results provided by UPS: 08/28/2021 8:04 A.M. EST

From: [UPS](#)
To: [Letitia Walsh](#)
Subject: UPS Delivery Notification, Tracking Number 1ZV57A910190806564
Date: Friday, August 27, 2021 3:45:43 PM



Hello, your package has been delivered.

Delivery Date: Friday, 08/27/2021

Delivery Time: 3:41 PM

Left At: OFFICE

Signed by: MAILBOX

NYS COMM ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Tracking Number: [1ZV57A910190806564](#)

Ship To: GUILFORD TOWN JUSTICE
223 MARBLE ROAD
GUILFORD, NY 13780
US

Number of Packages: 1

UPS Service: UPS Next Day Air®

Package Weight: 1.0 LBS

Reference Number: LW



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COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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www.cjc.ny.gov

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ADMINISTRATOR & COUNSEL

CATHLEEN S. CENCI
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR
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SENIOR ATTORNEYS

SHRUTI JOSHI
STAFF ATTORNEY

CONFIDENTIAL

September 30, 2021

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780-9793

and

[REDACTED]
Mount Upton, New York 13809

Re: File No. 2021/A-0147, 2021/A-0178

Dear Judge Persons:

On August 26, 2021, the Commission on Judicial Conduct wrote to you requesting your reply to certain matters by September 10, 2021, including your additional written response to complaint 2021/A-0147, which you partially responded to on July 23, 2021. To date, no reply to the Commission’s August 26 letter has been received. Copies of the letters are enclosed.

Please respond to the letters by October 12, 2021. **Your failure to respond may be found by the Commission to be a failure to cooperate with the investigation.**

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

September 30, 2021

Page 2

Very truly yours,



Cathleen S. Cenci
Deputy Administrator

Enclosures

Also via email to [REDACTED] [@nycourts.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@nycourts.gov)



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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KATHLEEN E. KLEIN
SENIOR ATTORNEYS

CONFIDENTIAL

August 26, 2021

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780-9793

Re: File No. 2021/A-0147, 2021/A-0178

Dear Judge Persons:

The Commission has reviewed your July 23, 2021, letter regarding complaint number 2021/A-0147 and requests your additional written response. The Commission is also investigating a complaint alleging that your driver's license was suspended in January 2021 and April 2021 for lapsed insurance and for failure to answer a summons in the Village of Johnson City and requests your written response pertaining to that complaint.

Enclosed is a copy of the Administrator's Complaint, 2021/A-0178. For your reference, the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct, the Commission's Operating Procedures and Rules, the Commission's Policy Manual and other documents are available on the Commission's website.¹

In your letter, please include answers to the questions below and number your responses to correspond to the questions. Please note that, pursuant to Section 2.6(D)(3) of the Commission's Policy Manual, if your written reply is

¹ <http://www.cjc.ny.gov/Legal.Authorities/legal.authorities.htm>

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

August 26, 2021

Page 2

submitted by counsel, you must co-sign or submit a separate statement indicating that you have read and adopt it.

Regarding the Complaint by the Office of the State Comptroller (File No. 2021/A-0147)

1. When were you hospitalized as indicated in your response to question 1 of the Commission's June 23, 2021, letter? Specifically, please summarize the timeline of when you became seriously ill relative to when the December 2020 and March 2021 reports to the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) were due and elaborate on why the reports were not filed timely.

2. When did you become unable to hold court and what was the timeframe when you were on medical leave from your judicial position? If you have since resumed your judicial duties, please indicate when you did so and whether you have resumed your duties in full, explaining any changes to court operations as a result of your illness.

3. Have you filed your December 2020 and March 2021 monthly reports to the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC)? If so, when did you file the reports and has OSC directed resumption of your salary? Please provide copies of the reports with your response to this letter.

Per your request for additional time to answer questions 2 and 3 of the Commission's June 23, 2021, letter, please respond to the following questions and provide the requested records with your response to this letter:

4. Did you dispose of cases during December 2020 and March 2021? If so, please provide the Commission with a list of completed cases which you failed to report to the State Comptroller and a statement as to the amount of money collected for each case.

5. During the above periods, did you receive fines or other funds that must be remitted to the State Comptroller? If so, please provide the Commission with a copy of your cashbook for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, and with copies of receipts, deposit slips, and bank statements indicating when the above funds were received, and when the funds were deposited into your court account.

Regarding the Administrator's Complaint (File No. 2021/A-0178)

6. Directing your attention to the Abstract of Driving Record ("abstract") attached to the enclosed Administrator's Complaint, do you now or have you ever held a commercial driver's license and/or permit? If so, what licenses or permits did you hold and when? Please also describe the purpose for each such license, such as whether you are or were employed as a commercial driver and in what capacity.

7. On or about January 1, 2021, was your driver's license suspended for lapsed insurance as indicated by the abstract? If so, please answer the following questions:

- A. Why was your license suspended?
- B. When and how did you learn of this suspension?
- C. Have you taken any action to have this suspension lifted? If so, please describe in detail what you did and when and indicate whether the suspension remains in effect at the time of your response to this letter.

8. On or about April 30, 2021, was your driver's license suspended for failure to answer two summonses in the Village of Johnson City as indicated by the abstract? If so, please answer the following questions:

- A. Were you charged with violations of the Vehicle and Traffic Law in connection with this suspension? If so, what violations were you charged with and when?
- B. Did you fail to appear in court and/or respond to the charges? If so, when were you due to appear or respond and why did you not do so?
- C. When and how did you learn of this license suspension?
- D. Have you taken any action to have this suspension lifted? If so, please describe in detail what you did and when and

indicate whether this suspension remains in effect at the time of your response to this letter.

- E. What is the status of the charges? Please summarize the procedural history of the case, and if the charges are pending, indicate when the case is next returnable in court. If the charges have been disposed, please provide all details of how the matter was resolved, including the disposition of each charge and whether any fines have been paid or remain outstanding.

9. Have you driven a motor vehicle while either of the above-mentioned suspensions of your driver's license were in effect? If so, please explain when and why. Please also indicate in what capacity you have driven, such as for personal reasons and/or in connection with any commercial driving as covered in your response to question 6.

10. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.2(A) of the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct ("Rules"), which requires that a judge respect and comply with the law and to act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary? Please explain your response.

11. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.3(B)(1) of the Rules, which requires that a judge be faithful to the law and maintain a professional competence in it? Please explain your response.

12. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.3(C)(1) which requires a judge to diligently discharge his administrative responsibilities and to maintain professional competence in judicial administration? Please explain your response.

13. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.4(A) of the Rules, which provides that a judge shall conduct all of the judge's extra-judicial activities so that they do not cause reasonable doubt to the judge's capacity to act impartially as a judge, detract from the dignity of judicial office or interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties and are not incompatible with judicial office? Please explain your response.

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

August 26, 2021

Page 5

Please feel free to include any relevant information or material that you wish the Commission to consider in connection with this matter.

Please respond in writing to this inquiry by September 10, 2021. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cenci', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cathleen S. Cenci
Deputy Administrator

Enclosures

VIA EMAIL TO: [REDACTED] [@NYCOURTS.GOV](mailto:[REDACTED]@NYCOURTS.GOV) AND UPS

ADMINISTRATOR'S COMPLAINT

In the Matter of: Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
Chenango County

Complaint # 2021/A-0178

Statutory Authorization

This complaint is filed at the direction of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct in compliance with Section 44, subdivision 2, of the Judiciary Law and is intended to serve as the basis for an investigation. In accordance with Section 44, subdivision 3, in the event that the above-named judge is required to appear before the Commission or any of its members or staff, this complaint will be served at the time the judge is notified in writing of the required appearance.

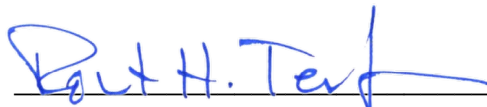
This complaint is not an accusatory instrument. It provides a basis to commence an investigation. Thus, a judge under investigation may be required to reply to other allegations in addition to those set forth below.

Complaint

Based upon records of the Department of Motor Vehicles and the attached driving abstract reviewed in the course of investigating another complaint against Judge Persons, it is alleged that the judge's driver's license was suspended in January and April 2021 for lapsed insurance and for failure to answer a summons in the Village of Johnson City.

New York, New York

Date Signed: August 12, 2021



Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator

Authorized on August 5, 2021

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0267
PRINT DATE: 6/21/2021 TIME: 09:53:59 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

NAME ON LICENSE/ID: PERSONS
JEREMY, L

LICENSE CLASS: *D*
COMMERCIAL STATUS: SUSPENDED

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/11/2025

PERMIT CLASS: M
APPLICATION DATE: 02/04/2005
ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 02/04/2006

PERMIT CLASS: A
APPLICATION DATE: 10/12/2001
ENDORSEMENTS: PASSENGER
RESTRICTIONS: CDL INTRASTATE ONLY

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/04/2003

SUSP/REV SUMMARY: TOTAL 3 (SCOFFS 2 ON 1 DATES) JUDGEMENT \$ 0

***** ACTIVITY *****
CDL B 10/09/2009 ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

CLASS CHANGE: 09/14/1992	NEW: *DJ*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 04/15/1996	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/12/2001	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/09/2009	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 06/03/2014	NEW: *D*	OLD: CDL *B*

This is to certify that this document is a true and complete copy of an electronic record on file in the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York. The record was made in regular course of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles daily business. It is the business of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles to create and maintain the records of drivers in the state of New York. Entries in this document are made at the time the recorded transactions or events took place or within a reasonable time thereafter. The person who reports the information is under a business duty to do so accurately.

Mark J.F. Schroeder

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0267

PRINT DATE: 6/21/2021 TIME: 09:53:59 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

***** SUSPENSIONS/REVOICATIONS *****

- SUSPENSION: 01/01/2021 INSURANCE LAPSE ORDER #: C2012190000
- SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
- SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
- SUSPENSION: 07/17/2019 FAILURE TO PAY FINE ORDER #: Z2C2680NFWB
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 07/30/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFPG
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFWB
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

***** CONVICTIONS/BAIL FORFEITURES *****

CONVICTION: OPERAT W/O A LICENSE
VIOLATION: 03/06/2018 CONVICTED ON: 03/12/2019
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
PENALTY: FINE- \$127
COMM VEH: NO HAZMAT: NO

*** END OF RECORD ***

This is to certify that this document is a true and complete copy of an electronic record on file in the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York. The record was made in regular course of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles daily business. It is the business of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles to create and maintain the records of drivers in the state of New York. Entries in this document are made at the time the recorded transactions or events took place or within a reasonable time thereafter. The person who reports the information is under a business duty to do so accurately.

Mark J.F. Schroeder

Proof of Delivery

Dear Customer,

This notice serves as proof of delivery for the shipment listed below.

Tracking Number

1ZV57A910190806564

Weight

1.00 LBS

Service

UPS Next Day Air®

Shipped / Billed On

08/26/2021

Delivered On

08/27/2021 3:41 P.M.

Delivered To

GUILFORD, NY, US

Received By

MAILBOX

Left At

Office

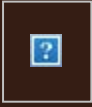
Thank you for giving us this opportunity to serve you. Details are only available for shipments delivered within the last 120 days. Please print for your records if you require this information after 120 days.

Sincerely,

UPS

Tracking results provided by UPS: 08/28/2021 8:04 A.M. EST

From: [UPS](#)
To: [Letitia Walsh](#)
Subject: UPS Delivery Notification, Tracking Number 1ZV57A910190806564
Date: Friday, August 27, 2021 3:45:43 PM



Hello, your package has been delivered.

Delivery Date: Friday, 08/27/2021

Delivery Time: 3:41 PM

Left At: OFFICE

Signed by: MAILBOX

NYS COMM ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Tracking Number: [1ZV57A910190806564](#)

Ship To: GUILFORD TOWN JUSTICE
223 MARBLE ROAD
GUILFORD, NY 13780
US

Number of Packages: 1

UPS Service: UPS Next Day Air®

Package Weight: 1.0 LBS

Reference Number: LW



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October 14, 2021

Dear Letitia Walsh:

The following is in response to your request for proof of delivery on your item with the tracking number:
9402 8092 0212 1566 9830 87.

Item Details

Status: Delivered, Left with Individual
Status Date / Time: October 2, 2021, 1:39 pm
Location: GUILFORD, NY 13780
Postal Product: Priority Mail®
Extra Services: Certified Mail™
Return Receipt Electronic
Up to \$100 insurance included
Recipient Name: Hon Jeremy L Persons

Shipment Details

Weight: 4.0oz

Recipient Signature

Signature of Recipient:	W6061C19 vsl6061C19
Address of Recipient:	323 marble rd

Note: Scanned image may reflect a different destination address due to Intended Recipient's delivery instructions on file.

Thank you for selecting the United States Postal Service® for your mailing needs. If you require additional assistance, please contact your local Post Office™ or a Postal representative at 1-800-222-1811.

Sincerely,
United States Postal Service®
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C. 20260-0004

Track Another Package +

Tracking Number: 9402809202121566986033

[Remove X](#)

Your item has been delivered to the original sender at 8:39 am on October 22, 2021 in ALBANY, NY 12220.

USPS Tracking Plus® Available ✓

✓ **Delivered, To Original Sender**

October 22, 2021 at 8:39 am
ALBANY, NY 12220

Feedback

Get Updates ✓

Text & Email Updates



Return Receipt Electronic



Tracking History



October 22, 2021, 8:39 am

Delivered, To Original Sender
ALBANY, NY 12220

Your item has been delivered to the original sender at 8:39 am on October 22, 2021 in ALBANY, NY 12220.

October 22, 2021, 8:14 am

Arrived at Post Office
ALBANY, NY 12210

October 22, 2021, 8:13 am

Available for Pickup
ALBANY, NY 12220

October 21, 2021, 8:37 pm

Arrived at USPS Regional Facility
ALBANY NY DISTRIBUTION CENTER

October 21, 2021, 1:41 am

Departed USPS Regional Facility
NORTHWEST ROCHESTER NY DISTRIBUTION CENTER

October 20, 2021, 10:21 am

Return to Sender Processed
NORWICH, NY 13815

October 20, 2021, 10:20 am

Unclaimed/Being Returned to Sender
MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

October 9, 2021, 8:38 am

Available for Pickup
MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

Reminder to Schedule Redelivery of your item

October 4, 2021, 1:56 pm

Notice Left (No Authorized Recipient Available)
MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

October 4, 2021, 8:14 am

Out for Delivery
MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

October 4, 2021, 8:03 am

Arrived at Post Office
MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

Feedback

October 3, 2021

In Transit to Next Facility

October 1, 2021, 1:54 pm

Arrived at USPS Regional Facility
NORTHWEST ROCHESTER NY DISTRIBUTION CENTER

October 1, 2021, 1:39 am

Departed USPS Regional Origin Facility
SPRINGFIELD MA NETWORK DISTRIBUTION CENTER

October 1, 2021, 1:37 am

Arrived at USPS Regional Origin Facility
SPRINGFIELD MA NETWORK DISTRIBUTION CENTER

September 30, 2021, 4:31 pm

USPS in possession of item
ALBANY, NY 12210

September 30, 2021, 12:00 pm

Shipping Label Created, USPS Awaiting Item
ALBANY, NY 12223

Feedback

USPS Tracking Plus®



Product Information



See Less ^

Can't find what you're looking for?

Go to our FAQs section to find answers to your tracking questions.



October 15, 2021

Dear Letitia Walsh:

The following is in response to your request for proof of delivery on your item with the tracking number:
9402 8092 0212 1566 9860 33.

Item Details

Status:	We regret to inform you that we were unable to locate any delivery information in our records for your item.
Status Date / Time:	N/A
Location:	N/A
Postal Product:	Priority Mail®
Extra Services:	Certified Mail™ Return Receipt Electronic Up to \$100 insurance included
Recipient Name:	Hon Jeremy L Persons

Shipment Details

Weight:	4.0oz
----------------	-------

Thank you for selecting the United States Postal Service® for your mailing needs. If you require additional assistance, please contact your local Post Office™ or a Postal representative at 1-800-222-1811.

Sincerely,
United States Postal Service®
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C. 20260-0004



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SENIOR ATTORNEYS
SHRUTI JOSHI
STAFF ATTORNEY

CONFIDENTIAL

March 11, 2022

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
[REDACTED]
Mount Upton NY, 13809

Re: File Nos. 2021/A-0147, 2021/A-0178, 2021/A-0265, 2021/A-0266

Dear Judge Persons:

Pursuant to Article 2-A of the Judiciary Law, the Commission on Judicial Conduct is investigating four complaints alleging that: (1) you failed to file reports or remit funds to the Office of the State Comptroller (“OSC”) in the time required by law for the months of December 2020 and January 2021, and that your salary was stopped on May 20, 2021, as a result; (2) your driver’s license was suspended in January and April 2021 for lapsed insurance and failure to answer a summons in the Village of Johnson City; (3) you failed to process pleas, lift drivers’ license suspensions, deposit fines or cooperate with the Office of Court Administration (“OCA”) to resolve administrative and financial issues in the court; and (4) you made sexually inappropriate comments to Assistant Public Defender Stephanie Hanrahan and other attorneys, mishandled a case involving a confidential informant, openly carry a pistol to court, and drive a vehicle with a sexually explicit bumper sticker.

Enclosed are copies of the complaints. Also enclosed are copies of letters from the Commission dated June 23, 2021, August 26, 2021, and September 30, 2021, requesting your response to Complaints #2021/A-0147 and #2021/A-0178.

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

March 11, 2022

Page 2

For your reference, the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct, the Commission's Operating Procedures and Rules, the Commission's Policy Manual and other documents are available on the Commission's website.¹

In connection with this investigation, the Commission requests that you appear to give testimony on **April 4, 2022, at 10:00 AM**. At your appearance, you will be asked about the allegations of the complaints. In addition, you will be asked about your failure to fully respond to the enclosed letters dated June 23, 2021, August 26, 2021, and September 30, 2021.

Pursuant to Commission Policy 5.5,² this letter serves as notice that exigent circumstances exist such that your scheduled testimony in this matter will be conducted virtually, by videoconference via Zoom. A link to the Zoom proceeding will be sent to you by Commission staff, via email, shortly before your scheduled appearance. Attached to this letter is a list of protocols that will be followed in connection with your scheduled Zoom testimony.

Your appearance is requested in accordance with Section 44, subdivision 3, of the Judiciary Law. This is not a hearing as provided by Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law. Your testimony will be sworn and recorded, and a copy of the transcription thereof will be provided to you at no cost. You have the right to be represented by counsel and to present material relevant to the complaint.

At your appearance, you may make opening and/or closing statements. After being questioned by Commission counsel, you may be questioned by your own lawyer, subject to further questioning by Commission counsel.

On or before March 24, 2022, please submit to the Commission the following:

1. A list of all the cases you disposed of in December 2020 and March 2021, and a statement as to the amount of money collected for each case.
2. If you received fines or other funds that must be remitted to OSC during the abovementioned periods, please provide a copy of your cashbook for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, with copies of receipts, deposit slips, and bank statements, including

¹ <http://www.cjc.ny.gov/Legal.Authorities/legal.authorities.htm>

² <http://cjc.ny.gov/Legal.Authorities/NYSCJC.PolicyManual.pdf>

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

March 11, 2022

Page 3

when the funds were received, and when the finds were deposited into your court bank account.

3. Copies of your December 2020 and March 2021 monthly reports to OSC and a statement indicating whether you filed them and when.
4. Any and all correspondence, written or electronic, with OSC pertaining to your failure to timely submit monthly reports, stop-salary notice, and any notice of resumption of salary, if previously stopped.
5. Copies of all documents pertaining to the suspension of your driver's license, including any records related to traffic cases resulting in the suspension, and any copies of any written or electronic communications between you, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Johnson City Village Court, and any other entity regarding the traffic charges and/or suspension.

Please provide confirmation of your scheduled appearance by March 28, 2022, either by letter or phone call at (518) 453-4600. When confirming your appearance please provide an email address to which the Commission may send you a link to this Zoom proceeding. If you will be represented by an attorney at the proceeding, please provide an email address to which the Commission may send a link to your attorney. Please feel free to have your attorney call me and/or Staff Attorney Shruti Joshi with any questions.

Your failure to appear for testimony may be viewed by the Commission as a failure to cooperate.

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

March 11, 2022

Page 4

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Cathleen S. Cenci
Deputy Administrator

Enclosures

Certified Mail # 9402 8092 0212 1073 8578 95

Return Receipt Requested

and UPS

Signature Required

and First Class Mail



NYS Comptroller
THOMAS P. DINAPOLI

Office of the NEW YORK
STATE COMPTROLLER

Division of Local Government and School Accountability
Elliott Auerbach, Deputy Comptroller

May 20, 2021

George Seneck
Supervisor
Town of Guilford
223 Marble Rd
Guilford NY 13780

Re: Justice ID 0833560497P
Honorable Jeremy Persons

Dear Supervisor:

This is official notification that the above referenced Justice has not properly reported to the State Comptroller for the following month(s):

December 2020, March 2021

Pursuant to Section 27 of the Town Law and Section 4-410 of the Village Law, every town and village justice must file a report monthly with the State Comptroller. The report, certification, or remittance, if any, is due by the tenth of the month following the report month (e.g., the April report is due by the tenth of May). A report must be sent even if it is to indicate that no activity occurred in that month. In the event that a justice fails to properly account for any moneys received by such justice, the chief fiscal officer will be notified. Upon receipt of such notice from the State Comptroller, it shall be unlawful for the town or village to make any further payment of compensation to such justice until receipt of a notice from the Comptroller that a proper accounting has been made.

No further compensation should be made to this Justice until further notice from this office. Please sign the attached copy of this notification and return it to:

**Office of the State Comptroller
Justice Court Fund
110 State Street
Albany, NY 12236**

Sincerely,

Antoinette Villani
Manager
Justice Court Fund

encl

cc: Honorable Jeremy Persons
Binghamton Regional Office, Office of the State Comptroller
Honorable Nancy Sunukjian, Office of Court Administration
Honorable Brian D Burns, 6th Judicial District
Chief Council, Commission on Judicial Conduct

Office of the New York State Comptroller
110 State Street - Albany, NY 12236

866-321-8503, option 2
courtfund@osc.ny.gov

ADMINISTRATOR'S COMPLAINT

In the Matter of: Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
Chenango County

Complaint # 2021/A-0178

Statutory Authorization

This complaint is filed at the direction of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct in compliance with Section 44, subdivision 2, of the Judiciary Law and is intended to serve as the basis for an investigation. In accordance with Section 44, subdivision 3, in the event that the above-named judge is required to appear before the Commission or any of its members or staff, this complaint will be served at the time the judge is notified in writing of the required appearance.

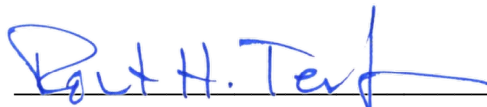
This complaint is not an accusatory instrument. It provides a basis to commence an investigation. Thus, a judge under investigation may be required to reply to other allegations in addition to those set forth below.

Complaint

Based upon records of the Department of Motor Vehicles and the attached driving abstract reviewed in the course of investigating another complaint against Judge Persons, it is alleged that the judge's driver's license was suspended in January and April 2021 for lapsed insurance and for failure to answer a summons in the Village of Johnson City.

New York, New York

Date Signed: August 12, 2021



Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator

Authorized on August 5, 2021

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0267
PRINT DATE: 6/21/2021 TIME: 09:53:59 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

NAME ON LICENSE/ID: PERSONS
JEREMY, L

LICENSE CLASS: *D*
COMMERCIAL STATUS: SUSPENDED

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/11/2025

PERMIT CLASS: M
APPLICATION DATE: 02/04/2005
ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 02/04/2006

PERMIT CLASS: A
APPLICATION DATE: 10/12/2001
ENDORSEMENTS: PASSENGER
RESTRICTIONS: CDL INTRASTATE ONLY

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/04/2003

SUSP/REV SUMMARY: TOTAL 3 (SCOFFS 2 ON 1 DATES) JUDGEMENT \$ 0

***** ACTIVITY *****
CDL B 10/09/2009 ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

CLASS CHANGE: 09/14/1992	NEW: *DJ*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 04/15/1996	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/12/2001	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/09/2009	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 06/03/2014	NEW: *D*	OLD: CDL *B*

This is to certify that this document is a true and complete copy of an electronic record on file in the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York. The record was made in regular course of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles daily business. It is the business of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles to create and maintain the records of drivers in the state of New York. Entries in this document are made at the time the recorded transactions or events took place or within a reasonable time thereafter. The person who reports the information is under a business duty to do so accurately.

Mark J.F. Schroeder

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0267

PRINT DATE: 6/21/2021 TIME: 09:53:59 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

***** SUSPENSIONS/REVOCATIONS *****

- SUSPENSION: 01/01/2021 INSURANCE LAPSE ORDER #: C2012190000
- SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
- SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
- SUSPENSION: 07/17/2019 FAILURE TO PAY FINE ORDER #: Z2C2680NFWB
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 07/30/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFPG
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFWB
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

***** CONVICTIONS/BAIL FORFEITURES *****

CONVICTION: OPERAT W/O A LICENSE
VIOLATION: 03/06/2018 CONVICTED ON: 03/12/2019
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
PENALTY: FINE- \$127
COMM VEH: NO HAZMAT: NO

*** END OF RECORD ***

This is to certify that this document is a true and complete copy of an electronic record on file in the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York. The record was made in regular course of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles daily business. It is the business of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles to create and maintain the records of drivers in the state of New York. Entries in this document are made at the time the recorded transactions or events took place or within a reasonable time thereafter. The person who reports the information is under a business duty to do so accurately.

Mark J.F. Schroeder

From: no-reply@weebly.com
To: [SCJC](#)
Subject: New Form Entry: Complaint Form
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 4:09:39 PM

You've just received a new submission to your [Complaint Form](#).
[Mark as Spam](#)

Submitted Information:

Title

Mr.

Name

Zachary Wentworth

M.I.

T

Phone Number 1

[REDACTED]

Phone Number 2

[REDACTED]

Email

[REDACTED]@co.chenango.ny.us

Address Line 1

26 Conkey Ave.

Address line 2

2nd Floor, Box 233

City

Norwich

State

New York

Zip

13815

Are you or were you represented by a lawyer?

No

Lawyer's Name

Lawyer's Phone Number

Lawyer's Address

Lawyer's City

Lawyer's State

New York

Lawyer's Zip

Judge's Name

Jeremy Persons

Judge's Court

Guilford Town Court

Judge's County

Chenango

Date(s) of Incidents(s)

2021, 8/26/2021, 10/6/2021

Name of Case (if applicable)

People v. [REDACTED]

Index Number of Case (if applicable)

In the space below, please describe the alleged misconduct. Include as much detailed information as possible, such as what happened, where and when; the names of witnesses; who said what to whom, and in what tone of voice; etc.

Please see attached letter.

Today's Date

10/15/2021

Judiciary Law § 44 requires that all complaints be signed and in writing. I understand that by clicking “I agree” below I am electronically signing this complaint, which has the same legal effect as my handwritten signature

I agree

Submitted Files

Upload File

[persons_complait.pdf](#)

Upload File_2

[persons_warrants.pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



CHENANGO COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

The Eaton Center
26 Conkey Ave
2nd Floor, Box 233
Norwich, NY 13815
Phone: (607) 337-1870
Fax: (607) 337-1489

Email: publicdefender@co.chenango.ny.us

STEPHANIE L. HANRAHAN
FIRST ASSISTANT PUBLIC
DEFENDER

ROSEMARIE RICHARDS
ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER

VACANT
ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER

ZACHARY T. WENTWORTH
PUBLIC DEFENDER

KARRI A. BECKWITH
ADMINISTRATOR
PARALEGAL

JAMES G. CUSHMAN
OF COUNSEL

October 15, 2021

New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower, Suite 2301
Albany, NY 12223

RE: Hon. Jeremy Persons
Town of Guilford Court, Chenango County

To the Commission,

Please accept this letter as my office's formal complaint against the Hon. Jeremy Persons of the Guilford Town Court located in Chenango County. There have been several incidents that have occurred that call into question the Judge's professionalism.

The Public Defender's Office has been represented by First Assistant Public Defender Stephanie Hanrahan, Esq. in Judge Person's Court. Several incidents have occurred that would border on sexual harassment and/or unprofessional conduct in front of the public and the Assistant Public Defender. They are as follows:

1. During the October 2020 court date, Public Defender Zachary Wentworth covered the Court appearances before Judge Persons for Ms. Hanrahan. At the conclusion of the calendar, while on the bench but without members of the public present, the Court indicated it could not wait for Ms. Hanrahan to be back as she was better looking than Mr. Wentworth. This incident was witnessed by Christopher Curley, Esq. of the Chenango County Public Defender's Office.
2. At the August 26, 2021 court date, the Court was made aware the APD Hanrahan was golfing in a golf tournament the next day. The Court made the statement "I wish I could watch you golf." After indicating that he wouldn't because APD Hanrahan was a bad golfer, he responded "that is not why I want to watch you golf." The tone and manner in which the statement was made lead APD Hanrahan to feel uncomfortable as had a sexual connotation to it.
3. Also on that same day, while on the bench, the Judge was discussing his previous relationship. He discussed how the relationship turned into a three way relationship and that his ex was now a lesbian. As part of that conversation, he used the phrase "she now likes the hole instead of the pole." This was also witnessed by ADA Curley and APD Hanrahan. Neither can remember if members of the public were present or not.

4. On October 6, 2021 Public Defender Wentworth handled an arraignment on off-court hours, it was noticed that the Judge had a sticker on the rear window of the car that read "Boobies make me smile." This was within close proximity to his sticker indicating he was a member of the NYS Magistrates Association.

On a separate date, the Court was conferencing a violation of probation matter in chambers with APD Hanrahan and ADA Nicole Sabasowitz. The court was upset and started yelling about the client being a confidential informant. He demanded the detective's phone number so that he demand to know more about his CI work. After this date, it was brought to the District Attorney's Office attention that during a buy, the client was threatened about being a CI with a gun during an attempted buy. It was indicated to the CI that they knew he was a CI due to something overheard in Court.

On this same case, the Public Defender's Office received a bench warrant on August 13, 2021 indicating that he was to be brought before the Court. There had been no court appearance, no request from the DA, or any other indication why the warrant was issued. On August 19, 2021 the defendant was brought before Judge Osborne of the same Court on a return on that warrant. The warrant produced by the State Police on that day was different than the one provided to the Public Defender and DA which was issued on the next day. A copy of that warrant was never provided until he was arraigned.

Lastly, the Judge has a pistol that he open carries in and outside of the Court. When he walks around the court with his robe on, it is visible to anyone in the court. He also openly carries it out to the parking lot while smoking before court, when the public is arriving for court appearances. He does not conceal the firearm during these times.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,



Zachary T. Wentworth
Public Defender



Stephanie L. Hanrahan
First Assistant Public Defender

Enclosure
CC:

**Guilford Town Court
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780**

Jeremy Persons
Guilford Town Justice

Ph(607)895-6831
Fx(607)895-6832

August 12, 2021

BENCH WARRANT

To Any Police Officer Of:
NEW YORK STATE POLICE

People of the State of New York versus:

[REDACTED]

Case No: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

Guilford, NY 13780

TicketNo.	Officer	Statute/Section	Charge Text
	ROWE, B	PL 260.10	ENDAN WEL CHILD

Fail To Appear Date: 08/12/2021

The above named defendant failed to appear for a scheduled probation check-ins, and has previously been arraigned on the charges listed.

Therefore you are ordered to arrest the above named defendant and bring that person before this Court.

This warrant may be executed in Chenango County or any adjacent county.

Dated: 08/12/2021


Jeremy Persons, Justice

On the _____ day of _____, 20____, a police officer authorized to execute the above Warrant, arrested the defendant in the County of _____ and brought him/her before the _____ Court in _____ County.

Department

Officer

**Guilford Town Court
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780**

Jeremy Persons
Guilford Town Justice

Ph(607)895-6831
Fx(607)895-6832

August 13, 2021

BENCH WARRANT

To Any Police Officer Of:
Chenango Co. Sheriffs Dept.

People of the State of New York versus:

[Redacted Name]

Case No: [Redacted]
DOB: [Redacted]

Guilford, NY 13780

TicketNo.	Officer	Statute/Section	Charge Text
	ROWE, B	PL 260.10	ENDAN WEL CHILD


Fail To Appear Date: 08/12/2021

Defendant has violated his conditions of Probation on the charge listed above. He has previously been arraigned on the charges listed.

Therefore you are ordered to arrest the above named defendant and bring that person before this Court.

This warrant may be executed in Chenango County or any adjacent county.

Dated: 08/13/2021


Jeremy Persons, Justice

On the _____ day of _____, 20____, a police officer authorized to execute the above Warrant, arrested the defendant in the County of _____ and brought him/her before the _____ Court in _____ County.

Department

Officer

ADMINISTRATOR'S COMPLAINT

In the Matter of: Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
Chenango County

Complaint # 2021/A-0265

Statutory Authorization

This complaint is filed at the direction of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct in compliance with Section 44, subdivision 2, of the Judiciary Law and is intended to serve as the basis for an investigation. In accordance with Section 44, subdivision 3, in the event that the above-named judge is required to appear before the Commission or any of its members or staff, this complaint will be served at the time the judge is notified in writing of the required appearance.

This complaint is not an accusatory instrument. It provides a basis to commence an investigation. Thus, a judge under investigation may be required to reply to other allegations in addition to those set forth below.

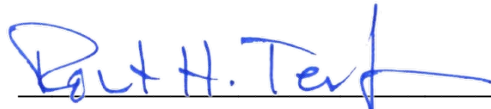
Complaint

Based upon the attached memorandum by the special counsel for town and village courts for the Sixth Judicial District, it is alleged that:

1. Judge Persons failed to process pleas, lift driver's license suspensions, deposit fines or cooperate with OCA to resolve administrative and financial issues in the court;
2. the judge made sexually inappropriate comments to Assistant Public Defender Stephanie Hanrahan and other attorneys and drives a vehicle to court bearing a sexually explicit sticker;
3. the judge mishandled a case involving a confidential informant in that he compromised the defendant's confidentiality by loudly arguing with attorneys over the defendant's informant status, demanded a phone number for the detective who supervises the defendant and improperly issued bench warrants falsely accusing the defendant of failing to appear in court; and
4. the judge openly carries a pistol to court.

New York, New York

Date Signed: November 4, 2021



Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator

Authorized on October 28, 2021



UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
KILMER BUILDING
31 LEWIS STREET, 5TH FLOOR
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13901-4466
Phone: (607) 240-5350 Fax: (212) 295-4927

ELIZABETH BURNS
Supervising Judge
Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Madison, Otsego Counties

GERALD A. KEENE
Supervising Judge
Broome, Chemung, Schuyler, Tioga, Tompkins Counties

EUGENE D. FAUGHNAN
District Administrative Judge

PORTER KIRKWOOD
District Executive

JOSHUA S. SHAPIRO
Special Counsel

MEMORANDUM

To: Hon. Eugene D. Faughnan, District Administrative Judge
From: Joshua S. Shapiro, Special Counsel for the Town and Village Courts
Re: Conduct of Justice Jeremy L. Persons, Town of Guilford, Chenango County
Date: October 14, 2021

I write to summarize substantial concerns I have with the conduct of Justice Jeremy L. Persons, both on and off the bench. Justice Persons is one of two Judges in the Town of Guilford Court in Chenango County. He was elected to the bench in 2020 and is not an attorney. As further discussed herein, these concerns are based upon conversations I have had with Town of Guilford Justice Karen Osborn, Town of Guilford Supervisor George Seneck, Chenango County Magistrates Association President Justice James Fox, Chenango County Public Defender Zachary Wentworth, and Chenango County Assistant Public Defender Stephanie Hanrahan. These concerns relate to both financial and operational irregularities in the Guilford Town Court as well as significant inappropriate behavior by Justice Persons both on and off the bench.

I. Financial and Operational Irregularities

Justice Persons took office in January of 2020. In mid-2021 Justice Persons became very ill and was hospitalized for a period of time. In March of 2021 Justice Persons stopped filing his required monthly reports to the Office of the State Comptroller (hereinafter "OSC"). In May of

2021, OSC directed the Town of Guilford to stop paying Justice Persons salary. Justice Persons subsequently resumed filing his reports. During this time, I was contacted by Justice Osborn and Town Supervisor Seneck. Both indicated they were concerned with Justice Persons abrogation of judicial duties beyond that which was explained by his illness. Justice Osborn specifically indicated that Justice Persons was not processing fine payments or pleas in a timely matter, and that paperwork would sit on his desk for months. She also indicated that people were contacting the court because their licenses were improperly suspended by Justice Persons, or because Justice Persons had failed to lift a suspension for which they had paid a suspension lift fee. Justice Osborn indicated that in at least one case she had personally taken in a money order for a person who had a license suspension, but that Justice Persons had never deposited that money order or cleared the suspension in the courtroom program. Supervisor Seneck echoed concerns that litigants were having trouble reaching the court and Justice Persons and as a result were contacting the town.

As a result of these issues, Supervising Judge Elizabeth Burns and I scheduled a meeting with Justice Persons, Justice Osborn, and Supervisor Seneck on August 4th, 2021. At this meeting we discussed these issues with Justice Persons and offered assistance and guidance in resolving them. Justice Persons agreed to take steps to remedy the issues raised, including resolving missing money with the Justice Court Fund.

In early September both Supervisor Seneck and Justice Osborn reached out to me to inform me that the issues had not been resolved and were still ongoing. Specifically, Justice Osborn indicated that the issue of unaccounted funds had not been resolved, and that fine payments and other mailings were not being processed in a timely manner. Justice Osborn also indicated that she believed there was additional money that was unaccounted for, and that she had personal knowledge of at least one additional payment that she took in which Justice Persons did not deposit. Supervisor Seneck indicated that monthly reports were again being filed late.

Based upon these new allegations Supervising Judge Burns and I corresponded with

Justice Persons to let him know that we would need to meet with him in person at the Sixth Judicial District Administrative Office on September 21st at 10:30 AM. Justice Persons indicated that he would meet us at that date and time. On the morning of September 21st, Justice Persons did not appear in the District Office. I left several messages on Justice Persons cell phone and home phone voicemail, but he did not return my phone call. The following morning on September 22nd, Justice Persons sent me an email indicating that his car had broken down, that he did not have cell phone service where it had broken down, and that when he finally gained access to phone service, he did not know the phone number to the District Office, so he made no other attempts at contact.

As a result of this sequence of events and the information we had at the time, and in consultation with Administrative Justice Faughnan, I requested an Internal Auditing Services audit of the Guilford Town Court. The initial audit meeting between the judges, myself, and the auditing team was scheduled for October 7th, 2021 at 11:00 AM. During the morning of October 7th, 2021, Justice Persons sent me a text message indicating that he and his wife and son had been exposed to Covid, and that his wife and son were now symptomatic. As a result of this, I advised Judge Persons that he should not come to the courthouse in person and could meet with the auditors and myself remotely. At this remote meeting Justice Persons was told what documents he would need to produce and he indicated that he would scan and email the documents to the auditors.

Since October 7, 2021, neither I nor the auditors have had further contact with Justice Persons, and he did not send the materials requested. The auditors attempted to reach Justice Persons on his cell phone but were unsuccessful. During the evening of Sunday, October 10th, 2021, Justice Osborn contacted me to inform me that Justice Persons had relayed to her that he had tested positive for Covid. Justice Osborn was concerned because Justice Persons indicated his intent to go to the courthouse the following day to file his monthly report. I sent an email to Justice Persons indicating that he should let us know if he needed any assistance as a result of his

diagnosis, but that he should not enter his courthouse if he was in quarantine due to a positive Covid test. To date neither I nor the auditors have heard back from Justice Persons.

II. Allegations of Substantial Inappropriate Behavior

On October 14th, 2021 I was contacted by Justice James Fox, who is the president of the Chenango County Magistrates Association. Justice Fox indicated that Assistant Public Defender Stephanie Hanrahan had disclosed to him that Justice Persons had made several extremely inappropriate remarks to her of a sexually suggestive nature, and that I should follow up with APD Hanrahan and Public Defender Zachary Wentworth for further details. I spoke with both PD Wentworth and APD Hanrahan on a conference call, and they reported the following:

PD Wentworth reported that several months ago he had a conversation with Justice Persons in the courthouse. Wentworth indicated that during this conversation Assistant District Attorney Christopher Curley was also present and could hear the conversation. PD Wentworth indicated that during this conversation Justice Persons indicated to PD Wentworth that Persons would be “glad to have Stephanie back because she’s much better looking than [Wentworth].”

APD Hanrahan indicated that several months ago she was in open court with Justice Persons, ADA Curley, and several litigants. Hanrahan indicated that in open court Justice Persons started discussing his multi-party sexual relationship with his ex-wife and girlfriend in an extraordinarily inappropriate manner. Hanrahan indicated that at one point during the conversation Justice Persons said something to the effect of “my ex-wife used to like the pole, but now she likes the hole.”

APD Hanrahan reported that on or about August 26th, she was in chambers with Justice Persons. Hanrahan indicated that she told Justice Persons that she would be golfing the next day. Hanrahan indicated that Persons responded that he “would like to see that.” Hanrahan indicated that she responded “no, you wouldn’t, I’m not good at golf.” Hanrahan indicated that Persons responded “No, it’s because I’d like to watch you” in a sexually suggestive manner.

PD Wentworth indicated that at an arraignment several months ago he observed Justice Persons car in the court parking lot. Wentworth indicated that the car had two bumper stickers. The first was a New York State Magistrates Association sticker (identifying Persons as judge). The second was a bumper sticker which read "Boobies Make Me Smile."

PD Wentworth and APD Hanrahan both indicated that they have observed Justice Persons open carrying a firearm while in his courtroom.

Finally, APD Hanrahan relayed an incident concerning a defendant who was a confidential informant for the prosecution. Hanrahan indicated that during a conference with Justice Persons and Assistant District Attorney Nicole Sabasowitz, Persons grew upset that the defendant was allowed to act as a confidential informant. At one point during the conference, Persons demanded that ADA Sabasowitz give him the phone number of a detective who was supervising this confidential informant. Hanrahan indicated the conversation grew so heated and loud that persons in the main courtroom could overhear it, and that the defendant's status as a confidential informant was compromised and he ultimately faced retaliation. In connection with the same case, Hanrahan indicated Justice Persons issued a bench warrant for the defendants arrest. Hanrahan indicated that a copy of the Bench Warrant sent to her office indicated that it was for probation violations. Hanrahan indicated that a different and altered copy of the warrant was sent to the police to be executed, and the altered copy indicated that the defendant had missed a date in court. Hanrahan indicated that the missed date indicated was not a court date and the warrant had never been received by her office. Hanrahan indicated the only reason she became aware of the two different warrants was because she received a copy of the second warrant when the defendant was arraigned.

Based upon the above allegations I believe that further administrative action is necessary.



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

JOSEPH W. BELLUCK, CHAIR
TAA GRAYS, VICE CHAIR
HON. FERNANDO M. CAMACHO
JODIE CORNGOLD
HON. JOHN A. FALK
HON. ANGELA M. MAZZARELLI
HON. ROBERT J. MILLER
MARVIN RAY RASKIN
RONALD J. ROSENBERG
GRAHAM B. SEITER
AKOSUA GARCIA YEBOAH
MEMBERS
CELIA A. ZAHNER, CLERK

CORNING TOWER, SUITE 2301
EMPIRE STATE PLAZA
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12223

518-453-4600 518-299-1757
TELEPHONE FACSIMILE
www.cjc.ny.gov

ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN
ADMINISTRATOR & COUNSEL

CATHLEEN S. CENCI
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR
S. PETER PEDROTTY
KATHLEEN E. KLEIN
SENIOR ATTORNEYS

CONFIDENTIAL

June 23, 2021

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780-9793

Re: File No. 2021/A-0147

Dear Judge Persons:

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct is investigating a complaint that you failed to file reports or remit funds to the Office of the State Comptroller in the time required by law, for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, and that your salary was stopped on May 20, 2021. A copy of the stop-salary notice is enclosed.

For your reference, the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct, the Commission's Operating Procedures and Rules, the Commission's Policy Manual and other documents are available on the Commission's website.¹

In connection with this matter, the Commission requests that you respond to the following questions, in writing, by July 21, 2021. The Commission requests that you personally respond to each question, even if you have already submitted your overdue report or reports. In your letter, please include answers to the questions below and number your responses to correspond to the questions. Please note that, pursuant to Section 2.6(D)(3) of the Commission's Policy Manual, if your written reply is submitted by counsel, you must co-sign or submit a separate statement indicating that you have read and adopt it.

¹ <http://www.cjc.ny.gov/Legal.Authorities/legal.authorities.htm>

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

June 23, 2021

Page 2

1. Did you fail to file reports to the State Comptroller in the time required by Section 27 of the Town Law, as indicated in the attached stop-salary notice? If so, please state why you failed to file the reports as required.

2. Did you dispose of cases during December 2020 and March 2021? If so, please provide the Commission with a list of completed cases which you failed to report to the State Comptroller and a statement as to the amount of money collected for each case.

3. During the above period, did you receive fines or other funds that must be remitted to the State Comptroller? If so, please provide the Commission with a copy of your cashbook for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, and with copies of receipts, deposit slips, and bank statements indicating when the above funds were received, and when the funds were deposited into your court account.

Please number each answer to correspond to the question you are answering. Feel free to include any information that you may believe is relevant.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Cathleen S. Cenci
Deputy Administrator

Enclosure

VIA EMAIL TO: [REDACTED]@NYCOURTS.GOV AND UPS



NYS Comptroller
THOMAS P. DINAPOLI

Office of the NEW YORK
STATE COMPTROLLER

Division of Local Government and School Accountability
Elliott Auerbach, Deputy Comptroller

May 20, 2021

George Seneck
Supervisor
Town of Guilford
223 Marble Rd
Guilford NY 13780

Re: Justice ID 0833560497P
Honorable Jeremy Persons

Dear Supervisor:

This is official notification that the above referenced Justice has not properly reported to the State Comptroller for the following month(s):

December 2020, March 2021

Pursuant to Section 27 of the Town Law and Section 4-410 of the Village Law, every town and village justice must file a report monthly with the State Comptroller. The report, certification, or remittance, if any, is due by the tenth of the month following the report month (e.g., the April report is due by the tenth of May). A report must be sent even if it is to indicate that no activity occurred in that month. In the event that a justice fails to properly account for any moneys received by such justice, the chief fiscal officer will be notified. Upon receipt of such notice from the State Comptroller, it shall be **unlawful** for the town or village to make any further payment of compensation to such justice until receipt of a notice from the Comptroller that a proper accounting has been made.

No further compensation should be made to this Justice until further notice from this office. Please sign the attached copy of this notification and return it to:

**Office of the State Comptroller
Justice Court Fund
110 State Street
Albany, NY 12236**

Sincerely,

Antoinette Villani
Manager
Justice Court Fund

encl

cc: Honorable Jeremy Persons
Binghamton Regional Office, Office of the State Comptroller
Honorable Nancy Sunukjian, Office of Court Administration
Honorable Brian D Burns, 6th Judicial District
Chief Council, Commission on Judicial Conduct

Office of the New York State Comptroller
110 State Street - Albany, NY 12236

866-321-8503, option 2
courtfund@osc.ny.gov

Letitia Walsh

From: UPS <pkginfo@ups.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 3:08 PM
To: Letitia Walsh
Subject: UPS Delivery Notification, Tracking Number 1ZV57A910193161442



Hello, your package has been delivered.

Delivery Date: Thursday, 06/24/2021
Delivery Time: 03:06 PM
Left At: OFFICE
Signed by: HWY DEPT

NYS COMM ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Tracking Number: [1ZV57A910193161442](#)
Ship To: HON. JEREMY L. PERSONS
223 MARBLE ROAD
GUILFORD, NY 13780
US
Number of Packages: 1
UPS Service: UPS Next Day Air®
Package Weight: 1.0 LBS
Reference Number: LW



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Proof of Delivery

Dear Customer,

This notice serves as proof of delivery for the shipment listed below.

Tracking Number

1ZV57A910193161442

Weight

1.00 LBS

Service

UPS Next Day Air®

Shipped / Billed On

06/23/2021

Delivered On

06/24/2021 3:06 P.M.

Delivered To

GUILFORD, NY, US

Received By

HWY DEPT

Left At

Office

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to serve you. Details are only available for shipments delivered within the last 120 days. Please print for your records if you require this information after 120 days.

Sincerely,

UPS

Tracking results provided by UPS: 06/24/2021 3:14 P.M. EST



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CATHLEEN S. CENCI
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR

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KATHLEEN E. KLEIN
SENIOR ATTORNEYS

CONFIDENTIAL

August 26, 2021

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780-9793

Re: File No. 2021/A-0147, 2021/A-0178

Dear Judge Persons:

The Commission has reviewed your July 23, 2021, letter regarding complaint number 2021/A-0147 and requests your additional written response. The Commission is also investigating a complaint alleging that your driver's license was suspended in January 2021 and April 2021 for lapsed insurance and for failure to answer a summons in the Village of Johnson City and requests your written response pertaining to that complaint.

Enclosed is a copy of the Administrator's Complaint, 2021/A-0178. For your reference, the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct, the Commission's Operating Procedures and Rules, the Commission's Policy Manual and other documents are available on the Commission's website.¹

In your letter, please include answers to the questions below and number your responses to correspond to the questions. Please note that, pursuant to Section 2.6(D)(3) of the Commission's Policy Manual, if your written reply is

¹ <http://www.cjc.ny.gov/Legal.Authorities/legal.authorities.htm>

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

August 26, 2021

Page 2

submitted by counsel, you must co-sign or submit a separate statement indicating that you have read and adopt it.

Regarding the Complaint by the Office of the State Comptroller (File No. 2021/A-0147)

1. When were you hospitalized as indicated in your response to question 1 of the Commission's June 23, 2021, letter? Specifically, please summarize the timeline of when you became seriously ill relative to when the December 2020 and March 2021 reports to the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) were due and elaborate on why the reports were not filed timely.

2. When did you become unable to hold court and what was the timeframe when you were on medical leave from your judicial position? If you have since resumed your judicial duties, please indicate when you did so and whether you have resumed your duties in full, explaining any changes to court operations as a result of your illness.

3. Have you filed your December 2020 and March 2021 monthly reports to the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC)? If so, when did you file the reports and has OSC directed resumption of your salary? Please provide copies of the reports with your response to this letter.

Per your request for additional time to answer questions 2 and 3 of the Commission's June 23, 2021, letter, please respond to the following questions and provide the requested records with your response to this letter:

4. Did you dispose of cases during December 2020 and March 2021? If so, please provide the Commission with a list of completed cases which you failed to report to the State Comptroller and a statement as to the amount of money collected for each case.

5. During the above periods, did you receive fines or other funds that must be remitted to the State Comptroller? If so, please provide the Commission with a copy of your cashbook for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, and with copies of receipts, deposit slips, and bank statements indicating when the above funds were received, and when the funds were deposited into your court account.

Regarding the Administrator's Complaint (File No. 2021/A-0178)

6. Directing your attention to the Abstract of Driving Record ("abstract") attached to the enclosed Administrator's Complaint, do you now or have you ever held a commercial driver's license and/or permit? If so, what licenses or permits did you hold and when? Please also describe the purpose for each such license, such as whether you are or were employed as a commercial driver and in what capacity.

7. On or about January 1, 2021, was your driver's license suspended for lapsed insurance as indicated by the abstract? If so, please answer the following questions:

- A. Why was your license suspended?
- B. When and how did you learn of this suspension?
- C. Have you taken any action to have this suspension lifted? If so, please describe in detail what you did and when and indicate whether the suspension remains in effect at the time of your response to this letter.

8. On or about April 30, 2021, was your driver's license suspended for failure to answer two summonses in the Village of Johnson City as indicated by the abstract? If so, please answer the following questions:

- A. Were you charged with violations of the Vehicle and Traffic Law in connection with this suspension? If so, what violations were you charged with and when?
- B. Did you fail to appear in court and/or respond to the charges? If so, when were you due to appear or respond and why did you not do so?
- C. When and how did you learn of this license suspension?
- D. Have you taken any action to have this suspension lifted? If so, please describe in detail what you did and when and

indicate whether this suspension remains in effect at the time of your response to this letter.

- E. What is the status of the charges? Please summarize the procedural history of the case, and if the charges are pending, indicate when the case is next returnable in court. If the charges have been disposed, please provide all details of how the matter was resolved, including the disposition of each charge and whether any fines have been paid or remain outstanding.

9. Have you driven a motor vehicle while either of the above-mentioned suspensions of your driver's license were in effect? If so, please explain when and why. Please also indicate in what capacity you have driven, such as for personal reasons and/or in connection with any commercial driving as covered in your response to question 6.

10. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.2(A) of the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct ("Rules"), which requires that a judge respect and comply with the law and to act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary? Please explain your response.

11. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.3(B)(1) of the Rules, which requires that a judge be faithful to the law and maintain a professional competence in it? Please explain your response.

12. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.3(C)(1) which requires a judge to diligently discharge his administrative responsibilities and to maintain professional competence in judicial administration? Please explain your response.

13. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.4(A) of the Rules, which provides that a judge shall conduct all of the judge's extra-judicial activities so that they do not cause reasonable doubt to the judge's capacity to act impartially as a judge, detract from the dignity of judicial office or interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties and are not incompatible with judicial office? Please explain your response.

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

August 26, 2021

Page 5

Please feel free to include any relevant information or material that you wish the Commission to consider in connection with this matter.

Please respond in writing to this inquiry by September 10, 2021. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cenci', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cathleen S. Cenci
Deputy Administrator

Enclosures

VIA EMAIL TO: [REDACTED] [@NYCOURTS.GOV](mailto:[REDACTED]@NYCOURTS.GOV) AND UPS

ADMINISTRATOR'S COMPLAINT

In the Matter of: Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
Chenango County

Complaint # 2021/A-0178

Statutory Authorization

This complaint is filed at the direction of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct in compliance with Section 44, subdivision 2, of the Judiciary Law and is intended to serve as the basis for an investigation. In accordance with Section 44, subdivision 3, in the event that the above-named judge is required to appear before the Commission or any of its members or staff, this complaint will be served at the time the judge is notified in writing of the required appearance.

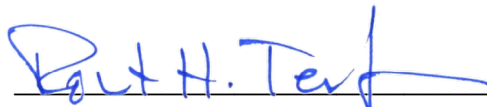
This complaint is not an accusatory instrument. It provides a basis to commence an investigation. Thus, a judge under investigation may be required to reply to other allegations in addition to those set forth below.

Complaint

Based upon records of the Department of Motor Vehicles and the attached driving abstract reviewed in the course of investigating another complaint against Judge Persons, it is alleged that the judge's driver's license was suspended in January and April 2021 for lapsed insurance and for failure to answer a summons in the Village of Johnson City.

New York, New York

Date Signed: August 12, 2021



Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator

Authorized on August 5, 2021

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0267
PRINT DATE: 6/21/2021 TIME: 09:53:59 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

NAME ON LICENSE/ID: PERSONS
JEREMY, L

LICENSE CLASS: *D*
COMMERCIAL STATUS: SUSPENDED

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/11/2025

PERMIT CLASS: M
APPLICATION DATE: 02/04/2005
ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 02/04/2006

PERMIT CLASS: A
APPLICATION DATE: 10/12/2001
ENDORSEMENTS: PASSENGER
RESTRICTIONS: CDL INTRASTATE ONLY

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/04/2003

SUSP/REV SUMMARY: TOTAL 3 (SCOFFS 2 ON 1 DATES) JUDGEMENT \$ 0

***** ACTIVITY *****
CDL B 10/09/2009 ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

CLASS CHANGE: 09/14/1992	NEW: *DJ*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 04/15/1996	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/12/2001	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/09/2009	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 06/03/2014	NEW: *D*	OLD: CDL *B*

This is to certify that this document is a true and complete copy of an electronic record on file in the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York. The record was made in regular course of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles daily business. It is the business of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles to create and maintain the records of drivers in the state of New York. Entries in this document are made at the time the recorded transactions or events took place or within a reasonable time thereafter. The person who reports the information is under a business duty to do so accurately.

Mark J.F. Schroeder

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0267

PRINT DATE: 6/21/2021 TIME: 09:53:59 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

***** SUSPENSIONS/REVOICATIONS *****

- SUSPENSION: 01/01/2021 INSURANCE LAPSE ORDER #: C2012190000
- SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
- SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
- SUSPENSION: 07/17/2019 FAILURE TO PAY FINE ORDER #: Z2C2680NFWB
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 07/30/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFPG
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFWB
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

***** CONVICTIONS/BAIL FORFEITURES *****

CONVICTION: OPERAT W/O A LICENSE
VIOLATION: 03/06/2018 CONVICTED ON: 03/12/2019
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
PENALTY: FINE- \$127
COMM VEH: NO HAZMAT: NO

*** END OF RECORD ***

This is to certify that this document is a true and complete copy of an electronic record on file in the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York. The record was made in regular course of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles daily business. It is the business of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles to create and maintain the records of drivers in the state of New York. Entries in this document are made at the time the recorded transactions or events took place or within a reasonable time thereafter. The person who reports the information is under a business duty to do so accurately.

Mark J.F. Schroeder

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Dear Customer,

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Tracking Number

1ZV57A910190806564

Weight

1.00 LBS

Service

UPS Next Day Air®

Shipped / Billed On

08/26/2021

Delivered On

08/27/2021 3:41 P.M.

Delivered To

GUILFORD, NY, US

Received By

MAILBOX

Left At

Office

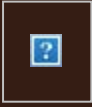
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Sincerely,

UPS

Tracking results provided by UPS: 08/28/2021 8:04 A.M. EST

From: [UPS](#)
To: [Letitia Walsh](#)
Subject: UPS Delivery Notification, Tracking Number 1ZV57A910190806564
Date: Friday, August 27, 2021 3:45:43 PM



Hello, your package has been delivered.

Delivery Date: Friday, 08/27/2021

Delivery Time: 3:41 PM

Left At: OFFICE

Signed by: MAILBOX

NYS COMM ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Tracking Number: [1ZV57A910190806564](#)

Ship To: GUILFORD TOWN JUSTICE
223 MARBLE ROAD
GUILFORD, NY 13780
US

Number of Packages: 1

UPS Service: UPS Next Day Air®

Package Weight: 1.0 LBS

Reference Number: LW



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ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN
ADMINISTRATOR & COUNSEL

CATHLEEN S. CENCI
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR
S. PETER PEDROTTY
KATHLEEN E. KLEIN
SENIOR ATTORNEYS

SHRUTI JOSHI
STAFF ATTORNEY

CONFIDENTIAL

September 30, 2021

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780-9793

and

████████████████████
Mount Upton, New York 13809

Re: File No. 2021/A-0147, 2021/A-0178

Dear Judge Persons:

On August 26, 2021, the Commission on Judicial Conduct wrote to you requesting your reply to certain matters by September 10, 2021, including your additional written response to complaint 2021/A-0147, which you partially responded to on July 23, 2021. To date, no reply to the Commission's August 26 letter has been received. Copies of the letters are enclosed.

Please respond to the letters by October 12, 2021. **Your failure to respond may be found by the Commission to be a failure to cooperate with the investigation.**

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

September 30, 2021

Page 2

Very truly yours,



Cathleen S. Cenci
Deputy Administrator

Enclosures

Also via email to [REDACTED] [@nycourts.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@nycourts.gov)



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SENIOR ATTORNEYS

CONFIDENTIAL

August 26, 2021

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
223 Marble Road
Guilford, New York 13780-9793

Re: File No. 2021/A-0147, 2021/A-0178

Dear Judge Persons:

The Commission has reviewed your July 23, 2021, letter regarding complaint number 2021/A-0147 and requests your additional written response. The Commission is also investigating a complaint alleging that your driver's license was suspended in January 2021 and April 2021 for lapsed insurance and for failure to answer a summons in the Village of Johnson City and requests your written response pertaining to that complaint.

Enclosed is a copy of the Administrator's Complaint, 2021/A-0178. For your reference, the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct, the Commission's Operating Procedures and Rules, the Commission's Policy Manual and other documents are available on the Commission's website.¹

In your letter, please include answers to the questions below and number your responses to correspond to the questions. Please note that, pursuant to Section 2.6(D)(3) of the Commission's Policy Manual, if your written reply is

¹ <http://www.cjc.ny.gov/Legal.Authorities/legal.authorities.htm>

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

August 26, 2021

Page 2

submitted by counsel, you must co-sign or submit a separate statement indicating that you have read and adopt it.

Regarding the Complaint by the Office of the State Comptroller (File No. 2021/A-0147)

1. When were you hospitalized as indicated in your response to question 1 of the Commission's June 23, 2021, letter? Specifically, please summarize the timeline of when you became seriously ill relative to when the December 2020 and March 2021 reports to the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) were due and elaborate on why the reports were not filed timely.

2. When did you become unable to hold court and what was the timeframe when you were on medical leave from your judicial position? If you have since resumed your judicial duties, please indicate when you did so and whether you have resumed your duties in full, explaining any changes to court operations as a result of your illness.

3. Have you filed your December 2020 and March 2021 monthly reports to the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC)? If so, when did you file the reports and has OSC directed resumption of your salary? Please provide copies of the reports with your response to this letter.

Per your request for additional time to answer questions 2 and 3 of the Commission's June 23, 2021, letter, please respond to the following questions and provide the requested records with your response to this letter:

4. Did you dispose of cases during December 2020 and March 2021? If so, please provide the Commission with a list of completed cases which you failed to report to the State Comptroller and a statement as to the amount of money collected for each case.

5. During the above periods, did you receive fines or other funds that must be remitted to the State Comptroller? If so, please provide the Commission with a copy of your cashbook for the months of December 2020 and March 2021, and with copies of receipts, deposit slips, and bank statements indicating when the above funds were received, and when the funds were deposited into your court account.

Regarding the Administrator's Complaint (File No. 2021/A-0178)

6. Directing your attention to the Abstract of Driving Record ("abstract") attached to the enclosed Administrator's Complaint, do you now or have you ever held a commercial driver's license and/or permit? If so, what licenses or permits did you hold and when? Please also describe the purpose for each such license, such as whether you are or were employed as a commercial driver and in what capacity.

7. On or about January 1, 2021, was your driver's license suspended for lapsed insurance as indicated by the abstract? If so, please answer the following questions:

- A. Why was your license suspended?
- B. When and how did you learn of this suspension?
- C. Have you taken any action to have this suspension lifted? If so, please describe in detail what you did and when and indicate whether the suspension remains in effect at the time of your response to this letter.

8. On or about April 30, 2021, was your driver's license suspended for failure to answer two summonses in the Village of Johnson City as indicated by the abstract? If so, please answer the following questions:

- A. Were you charged with violations of the Vehicle and Traffic Law in connection with this suspension? If so, what violations were you charged with and when?
- B. Did you fail to appear in court and/or respond to the charges? If so, when were you due to appear or respond and why did you not do so?
- C. When and how did you learn of this license suspension?
- D. Have you taken any action to have this suspension lifted? If so, please describe in detail what you did and when and

indicate whether this suspension remains in effect at the time of your response to this letter.

- E. What is the status of the charges? Please summarize the procedural history of the case, and if the charges are pending, indicate when the case is next returnable in court. If the charges have been disposed, please provide all details of how the matter was resolved, including the disposition of each charge and whether any fines have been paid or remain outstanding.

9. Have you driven a motor vehicle while either of the above-mentioned suspensions of your driver's license were in effect? If so, please explain when and why. Please also indicate in what capacity you have driven, such as for personal reasons and/or in connection with any commercial driving as covered in your response to question 6.

10. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.2(A) of the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct ("Rules"), which requires that a judge respect and comply with the law and to act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary? Please explain your response.

11. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.3(B)(1) of the Rules, which requires that a judge be faithful to the law and maintain a professional competence in it? Please explain your response.

12. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.3(C)(1) which requires a judge to diligently discharge his administrative responsibilities and to maintain professional competence in judicial administration? Please explain your response.

13. Do you consider that your conduct was consistent with Section 100.4(A) of the Rules, which provides that a judge shall conduct all of the judge's extra-judicial activities so that they do not cause reasonable doubt to the judge's capacity to act impartially as a judge, detract from the dignity of judicial office or interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties and are not incompatible with judicial office? Please explain your response.

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

August 26, 2021

Page 5

Please feel free to include any relevant information or material that you wish the Commission to consider in connection with this matter.

Please respond in writing to this inquiry by September 10, 2021. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cenci', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cathleen S. Cenci
Deputy Administrator

Enclosures

VIA EMAIL TO: [REDACTED] [@NYCOURTS.GOV](mailto:[REDACTED]@NYCOURTS.GOV) AND UPS

ADMINISTRATOR'S COMPLAINT

In the Matter of: Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
Chenango County

Complaint # 2021/A-0178

Statutory Authorization

This complaint is filed at the direction of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct in compliance with Section 44, subdivision 2, of the Judiciary Law and is intended to serve as the basis for an investigation. In accordance with Section 44, subdivision 3, in the event that the above-named judge is required to appear before the Commission or any of its members or staff, this complaint will be served at the time the judge is notified in writing of the required appearance.

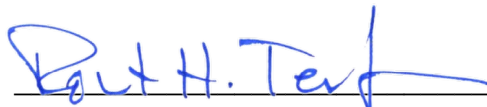
This complaint is not an accusatory instrument. It provides a basis to commence an investigation. Thus, a judge under investigation may be required to reply to other allegations in addition to those set forth below.

Complaint

Based upon records of the Department of Motor Vehicles and the attached driving abstract reviewed in the course of investigating another complaint against Judge Persons, it is alleged that the judge's driver's license was suspended in January and April 2021 for lapsed insurance and for failure to answer a summons in the Village of Johnson City.

New York, New York

Date Signed: August 12, 2021



Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator

Authorized on August 5, 2021

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0267
PRINT DATE: 6/21/2021 TIME: 09:53:59 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

NAME ON LICENSE/ID: PERSONS
JEREMY, L

LICENSE CLASS: *D*
COMMERCIAL STATUS: SUSPENDED

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/11/2025

PERMIT CLASS: M
APPLICATION DATE: 02/04/2005
ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 02/04/2006

PERMIT CLASS: A
APPLICATION DATE: 10/12/2001
ENDORSEMENTS: PASSENGER
RESTRICTIONS: CDL INTRASTATE ONLY

STATUS: SUSPENDED EXPIRATION: 10/04/2003

SUSP/REV SUMMARY: TOTAL 3 (SCOFFS 2 ON 1 DATES) JUDGEMENT \$ 0

***** ACTIVITY *****
CDL B 10/09/2009 ENDORSEMENTS: NONE
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

CLASS CHANGE: 09/14/1992	NEW: *DJ*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 04/15/1996	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: *DJ*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/12/2001	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 10/09/2009	NEW: CDL *B*	OLD: CDL *B*
CLASS CHANGE: 06/03/2014	NEW: *D*	OLD: CDL *B*

This is to certify that this document is a true and complete copy of an electronic record on file in the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York. The record was made in regular course of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles daily business. It is the business of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles to create and maintain the records of drivers in the state of New York. Entries in this document are made at the time the recorded transactions or events took place or within a reasonable time thereafter. The person who reports the information is under a business duty to do so accurately.

Mark J.F. Schroeder

ABSTRACT OF DRIVING RECORD

Document # LWEB0267

PRINT DATE: 6/21/2021 TIME: 09:53:59 OPERATOR: WEB OFFICE: DAB

PERSONS, JEREMY, L
[REDACTED]
MOUNT UPTON NY 13809

CLIENT ID#: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SEX: M
HEIGHT: 6-0 EYE COLOR: BLUE
COUNTY: CHEN
MI #: P05666 03225 746525-75

***** SUSPENSIONS/REVOCATIONS *****

- SUSPENSION: 01/01/2021 INSURANCE LAPSE ORDER #: C2012190000
- SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
- SUSPENSION: 04/30/2021 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
- SUSPENSION: 07/17/2019 FAILURE TO PAY FINE ORDER #: Z2C2680NFWB
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 07/30/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFPG
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 07/07/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C2680NFWB
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
CLEAR ON: 03/12/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJM8
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED
- SUSPENSION: 02/22/2018 FLD ANSWER SUMMONS ORDER #: T2C317JZJZW
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
CLEAR ON: 11/25/2019 SCOFFLAW ANSWERED

***** CONVICTIONS/BAIL FORFEITURES *****

CONVICTION: OPERAT W/O A LICENSE
VIOLATION: 03/06/2018 CONVICTED ON: 03/12/2019
LOCATION: BROOME COUNTY, TOWN OF UNION
PENALTY: FINE- \$127
COMM VEH: NO HAZMAT: NO

*** END OF RECORD ***

This is to certify that this document is a true and complete copy of an electronic record on file in the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York. The record was made in regular course of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles daily business. It is the business of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles to create and maintain the records of drivers in the state of New York. Entries in this document are made at the time the recorded transactions or events took place or within a reasonable time thereafter. The person who reports the information is under a business duty to do so accurately.

Mark J.F. Schroeder

Proof of Delivery

Dear Customer,

This notice serves as proof of delivery for the shipment listed below.

Tracking Number

1ZV57A910190806564

Weight

1.00 LBS

Service

UPS Next Day Air®

Shipped / Billed On

08/26/2021

Delivered On

08/27/2021 3:41 P.M.

Delivered To

GUILFORD, NY, US

Received By

MAILBOX

Left At

Office

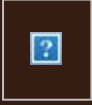
Thank you for giving us this opportunity to serve you. Details are only available for shipments delivered within the last 120 days. Please print for your records if you require this information after 120 days.

Sincerely,

UPS

Tracking results provided by UPS: 08/28/2021 8:04 A.M. EST

From: [UPS](#)
To: [Letitia Walsh](#)
Subject: UPS Delivery Notification, Tracking Number 1ZV57A910190806564
Date: Friday, August 27, 2021 3:45:43 PM



Hello, your package has been delivered.

Delivery Date: Friday, 08/27/2021

Delivery Time: 3:41 PM

Left At: OFFICE

Signed by: MAILBOX

NYS COMM ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Tracking Number: [1ZV57A910190806564](#)

Ship To: GUILFORD TOWN JUSTICE
223 MARBLE ROAD
GUILFORD, NY 13780
US

Number of Packages: 1

UPS Service: UPS Next Day Air®

Package Weight: 1.0 LBS

Reference Number: LW



[Download the UPS mobile app](#)

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[For Questions, Visit Our Help and Support Center](#)



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October 14, 2021

Dear Letitia Walsh:

The following is in response to your request for proof of delivery on your item with the tracking number:
9402 8092 0212 1566 9830 87.

Item Details

Status: Delivered, Left with Individual
Status Date / Time: October 2, 2021, 1:39 pm
Location: GUILFORD, NY 13780
Postal Product: Priority Mail®
Extra Services: Certified Mail™
Return Receipt Electronic
Up to \$100 insurance included
Recipient Name: Hon Jeremy L Persons

Shipment Details

Weight: 4.0oz

Recipient Signature

Signature of Recipient:	W6061C19 vsl6061C19
Address of Recipient:	323 marble rd

Note: Scanned image may reflect a different destination address due to Intended Recipient's delivery instructions on file.

Thank you for selecting the United States Postal Service® for your mailing needs. If you require additional assistance, please contact your local Post Office™ or a Postal representative at 1-800-222-1811.

Sincerely,
United States Postal Service®
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C. 20260-0004

Track Another Package +

Tracking Number: 9402809202121566986033

[Remove X](#)

Your item arrived at the MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809 post office at 8:38 am on October 9, 2021 and is ready for pickup.

USPS Tracking Plus™ Available ∨

Available for Pickup

October 9, 2021 at 8:38 am
MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

Feedback

Get Updates ∨

Text & Email Updates ∨

Return Receipt Electronic ∨

Tracking History ^

October 9, 2021, 8:38 am

Available for Pickup

MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

Your item arrived at the MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809 post office at 8:38 am on October 9, 2021 and is ready for pickup.

Reminder to Schedule Redelivery of your item

October 4, 2021, 1:56 pm

Notice Left (No Authorized Recipient Available)
MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

October 4, 2021, 8:14 am

Out for Delivery
MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

October 4, 2021, 8:03 am

Arrived at Post Office
MOUNT UPTON, NY 13809

October 3, 2021

In Transit to Next Facility

October 1, 2021, 1:55 pm

Departed USPS Regional Facility
NORTHWEST ROCHESTER NY DISTRIBUTION CENTER

October 1, 2021, 1:54 pm

Arrived at USPS Regional Facility
NORTHWEST ROCHESTER NY DISTRIBUTION CENTER

October 1, 2021, 1:39 am

Departed USPS Regional Origin Facility
SPRINGFIELD MA NETWORK DISTRIBUTION CENTER

October 1, 2021, 1:37 am

Arrived at USPS Regional Origin Facility
SPRINGFIELD MA NETWORK DISTRIBUTION CENTER

September 30, 2021, 4:31 pm

USPS in possession of item
ALBANY, NY 12210

September 30, 2021, 12:00 pm

Shipping Label Created, USPS Awaiting Item
ALBANY, NY 12223

Feedback

USPS Tracking Plus™



Product Information



See Less

Can't find what you're looking for?

Go to our FAQs section to find answers to your tracking questions.

FAQs

Feedback



October 15, 2021

Dear Letitia Walsh:

The following is in response to your request for proof of delivery on your item with the tracking number:
9402 8092 0212 1566 9860 33.

Item Details

Status:	We regret to inform you that we were unable to locate any delivery information in our records for your item.
Status Date / Time:	N/A
Location:	N/A
Postal Product:	Priority Mail®
Extra Services:	Certified Mail™ Return Receipt Electronic Up to \$100 insurance included
Recipient Name:	Hon Jeremy L Persons

Shipment Details

Weight:	4.0oz
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Thank you for selecting the United States Postal Service® for your mailing needs. If you require additional assistance, please contact your local Post Office™ or a Postal representative at 1-800-222-1811.

Sincerely,
United States Postal Service®
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C. 20260-0004

Commission on Judicial Conduct Protocols for Virtual Video Appearances
Pursuant to Section 44, Subdivision 3, of the Judiciary Law

Due to the exigent circumstances that exist due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the Commission's Administrator has implemented the following temporary procedures pursuant to Commission Policy 5.5(A)(1):

1. Video Platform for Virtual Video Appearance pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 3, of the Judiciary Law
 - A. The platform for the virtual video appearance will be Zoom, which facilitates live videoconferencing.
 - B. Each participant will appear virtually by using a computer or other device with an internet connection and a camera. Each participant is required to be visible on camera at all times during the time of his or her participation. This includes Commission staff, the judge, the judge's attorney, any paralegals or other assistants, and court reporters. If, at any point, a participant is not visible to all other participants, the proceeding will be paused until such time that the participant is again visible.
 - C. Commission staff will be available in advance of the date of your scheduled appearance to set up a practice Zoom session and to resolve any technological issues.
 - D. The Commission will have IT support staff available (and present) during the entirety of your appearance should any connectivity or other technological issues arise.
2. Location of the Referee
 - A. The Referee shall participate in the virtual video appearance from a private and secure location of his/her choosing.
 - B. The Commission's IT staff will assist the Referee to ensure that the computer he/she will be utilizing has the requisite high-speed internet connection, microphone, camera, and software to facilitate his/her participation via Zoom.
3. Location of Judge and Judge's Attorney(s)

- A. The judge and the judge's attorney(s) shall, at their option, participate in the virtual hearing from the same or from different private and secure locations of their choosing.
- B. Whether the judge and his/her attorney may participate from the same or different locations, they both must have access to one or more internet-equipped computers or other electronic devices with working microphones and cameras, as well as reliable high-speed internet. If the judge and his/her attorney participate from the same location, they may appear together on the same electronic device or from separate devices. If using the same device, the judge and his/her attorney must take special care to ensure that they both remain on camera for the entirety of the proceeding. The judge and his/her counsel must agree to install the Zoom program or application on their computer or electronic device and ensure that they will participate from a quiet location where no other persons are present (or in close enough proximity such that they can overhear the proceeding).
- C. The oath given to the judge in connection with this proceeding will be administered virtually by the Referee.

4. Location of Commission Attorneys and Staff

- A. Commission attorneys and staff shall, at their option, participate in this virtual video proceeding from their Commission offices or other private and secure locations.
- B. Whether they participate from their offices or other private and secure locations, Commission attorneys and staff shall adhere to the same protocols and standards as set forth for the judge and the judge's counsel in Section 3B herein.

5. Confidentiality

- A. Commission proceedings are confidential pursuant to Judiciary Law §45. Accordingly, the judge and the judge's counsel agree that they will not make any video or audio recordings of, take screen shots or photographs of, or make any kind of transmission to a third party or other electronic device of, any portion of this proceeding. The judge and the judge's counsel will be asked under oath by the referee to affirm that they will not be making and will not make any kind of video, recording or transmission of any part of this proceeding.

6. Exhibits

- A. Exhibits entered by the Commission will be displayed during the proceeding by a Commission staff member using Zoom’s “share screen” function. Exhibits entered by the judge will be displayed during the proceeding by the judge or the judge’s attorney using Zoom’s “share screen” function. Within 7 days after the conclusion of the proceeding any exhibits entered by the judge must be sent to the Commission either by overnight mail or email so that they can be included in the transcript of the proceeding. Exhibits sent by overnight mail should be sent to The Corning Tower, Suite 2301, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223. Exhibits sent by email should be sent to [REDACTED]@cjc.ny.gov.

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**STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

-----X
In the Matter of an Investigation :
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 3 :
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to :
:
JEREMY L. PERSONS :
:
a Justice of the Guilford Town Court :
Chenango County. :
-----X

Via Zoom Video Conference
Albany, New York

April 4, 2022

10:06 AM

Before:

LINDA J. CLARK, ESQ.
Referee

Present:

SHRUTI JOSHI, ESQ.
Staff Attorney

HON. JEREMY L. PERSONS
Witness

Also present:

RYAN T. FITZPATRICK
Senior Investigator

RICHARD KEATING
Principal LAN Administrator

(In the Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Colloquy)

1 MR. KEATING: We are now
2 recording.

3 THE REFEREE: Good morning,
4 everyone.

5 My name is Linda Clark from
6 Barclay Damon. I have been designated by
7 the Commission as referee to hear the
8 testimony of Judge Persons.

9 Today is April 4, 2022. It is
10 about 10:06. We will get started. I have
11 just a few statements to read into the
12 record; if that is okay. As you can all
13 see, this proceeding is taking place
14 virtually by video on the Zoom platform.

15 As we get started, will everyone
16 please give your appearances for the record.

17 THE WITNESS: Judge Persons.

18 MS. JOSHI: Go ahead, Judge.

19 THE WITNESS: Judge Persons.

20 MS. JOSHI: Shruti Joshi, staff
21 attorney at the Commission.

22 MR. FITZPATRICK: Ryan
23 Fitzpatrick, senior investigator for the
24 Commission.

25 MR. KEATING: Richard Keating, IT

(In the Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Colloquy)
1 Support for the Commission.

2 THE COURT REPORTER: Dee
3 Plevritis, court reporter.

4 THE REFEREE: Great. Is that
5 everyone? Is anyone attending by phone?

6 MR. KEATING: No.

7 THE REFEREE: Okay. Fine.

8 These proceedings are being
9 transcribed by a court reporter. Also
10 present is a Commission staff member who is
11 providing IT support and will be recording
12 the proceeding. The court reporter will go
13 on and off the record at my direction as
14 will the IT support member, who will be
15 present during the entirety of this
16 proceeding should any technological issues
17 arise.

18 To facilitate a clear and
19 accurate record, please speak slowly,
20 clearly and directly into the camera, and
21 please do not move away from the computer.
22 It is important to avoid talking over other
23 speakers, and please before answering a
24 question, please wait just a moment until
25 the question is completed and answer each

(In the Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Colloquy)

1 question with words, rather than a nod or
2 gesture. Please refrain from creating
3 excessive background noise, such as
4 shuffling papers as these sounds become
5 amplified on the recording.

6 You may not make a video or audio
7 recording or take screen shots or
8 photographs of any portion of this
9 proceeding, including any documents or other
10 materials you are shown.

11 If you haven't already done so, I
12 will do the same, please turn off your cell
13 phone and any other electronic equipment.

14 During your testimony, you must
15 be alone in the room from which you are
16 participating and you may not speak or
17 consult with any other person by telephone,
18 email, electronic message, social media or
19 in person.

20 The electronic device that you
21 are using to access this virtual video
22 proceeding may not be used to communicate
23 with any other person or to conduct any
24 research of any kind.

25 During this proceeding, you are

(In the Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Colloquy)

1 required to remain visible on the screen at
2 all times and may not for any reason turn
3 off your video feed. This requirement also
4 applies to Commission staff and the court
5 reporter.

6 If at any point a participant in
7 this proceeding is not visible to other
8 participants, the proceedings will be paused
9 until such time the participants are again
10 visible.

11 During the course of this
12 proceeding, the Judge is entitled to be
13 represented by counsel.

14 But, Judge, it is my
15 understanding that you have been advised of
16 that right, and you have elected to appear
17 without counsel; is that correct?

18 THE WITNESS: Yes, that is
19 correct.

20 THE REFEREE: During this
21 proceeding, I will, of course, entertain any
22 requests for brief recesses. And during the
23 course of the examination by Commission's
24 attorney, Judge, you may make objections to
25 the question posed. However, in making

(In the Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Colloquy)
1 objections, Judge, you should take into
2 account that this is an investigation and
3 not a trial and that the rules of evidence
4 do not strictly apply.

5 THE WITNESS: Correct.

6 THE REFEREE: At the conclusion
7 of questioning by the Commission's attorney,
8 the Judge may make any additional statements
9 that you wish, Judge. This is subject to
10 further questioning by the Commission's
11 attorney. Exhibits entered by the
12 Commission and, you, Judge, will be
13 displayed by a Commission staff member using
14 the Zoom share screen function.

15 Judge, you may make initial and
16 closing oral statements today or within
17 seven days of receipt of the transcript,
18 Judge, you may submit a statement in
19 writing. Any other written material may
20 also be submitted at this hearing or within
21 seven days of receipt of the transcript.

22 Now, before we begin, do you have
23 any questions about the instructions I just
24 gave you?

25 THE WITNESS: No, but I do -- I

(In the Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Colloquy)

1 would like to know if I could request a
2 one-month adjournment so I can get the
3 paperwork in? I have been dealing with my
4 wife, who has been gravely ill. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
5 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
6 [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

7 THE REFEREE: Counsel for the
8 Commission, how would you like to handle
9 this? Should we go on the record first and
10 have that discussion, or do you want to
11 handle that request as an administrative
12 issue? I guess we are on the record, right,
13 so.

14 THE WITNESS: Yeah, we are on the
15 record.

16 MS. JOSHI: Yes. That's not --
17 can I get five minutes to talk with my
18 supervisor and see how he would like to
19 handle this?

20 THE REFEREE: Well, I think my
21 real question was should we go ahead and
22 swear in the Judge and then deal with that
23 request, or would you like to pause right
24 now?

25 MS. JOSHI: Could we pause right

(In the Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Colloquy)

1 now?

2 THE REFEREE: Sure. That would
3 be fine. I am going to go on mute for a
4 little while until you come back.

5 MS. JOSHI: Thank you.

6 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

7 MR. KEATING: We are going off
8 the record while we handle this.

9 THE WITNESS: All right. Thank
10 you.

11 MR. KEATING: We are off the
12 record.

13 (A recess was taken.)

14 MR. KEATING: We are back on the
15 record.

16 THE WITNESS: All right.

17 THE REFEREE: So great. It is
18 10:16. We have gone back on the record
19 after a brief pause to deal with the Judge's
20 request for an adjournment.

21 Counsel, how would you like to
22 proceed?

23 MS. JOSHI: Judge, the Commission
24 would like to proceed with the hearing
25 today. You can always provide us the

(Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Hon. Jeremy L. Persons)
1 documents at a later time. We've previously
2 sent letters that allowed you time to
3 request an adjournment, but at this point,
4 the Commission would like to proceed with
5 the hearing today.

6 THE WITNESS: All right.

7 MS. JOSHI: You can certainly
8 provide the documents at a later date.

9 THE REFEREE: Judge, is there
10 anything you would like to say at this
11 point, or may I swear you in?

12 THE WITNESS: No, we can get
13 sworn in and get going.

14 THE REFEREE: Okay. Great.

15 Judge, please raise your right
16 hand; if you will.

17 (The witness complied.)

18 THE REFEREE: Do you swear or
19 affirm under the penalties of perjury that
20 the testimony you are about to give is the
21 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
22 truth?

23 THE WITNESS: I do.

24 THE REFEREE: Do you swear or
25 affirm under the penalties of perjury that

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 during this virtual video proceeding that
2 you will be alone, no person is in a
3 position to overhear these proceedings, and
4 you will not communicate, speak or consult
5 with any person who is not a participant to
6 this proceeding?

7 THE WITNESS: Correct.

8 THE REFEREE: Do you swear or
9 affirm under the penalties of perjury that
10 you not are making and will not make any
11 video, photographic, audio or screen shot
12 recordings of any portion of this
13 proceeding?

14 THE WITNESS: I swear.

15 THE REFEREE: Counsel.

16 MS. JOSHI: Thank you.

17 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

18 **BY MS. JOSHI:**

19 Q. Thank you, Judge, for appearing
20 today. Judge, would you like to make an
21 opening statement?

22 A. No, I just want to get this going
23 and get it done with.

24 MS. JOSHI: Okay.

25 I would first like to mark as

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Exhibit 1, so Ryan, if you could please show
2 on screen Exhibit 1, which is a copy of the
3 letter addressed to Judge Persons from
4 Deputy Administrator Cathleen Cenci. It was
5 dated March 11, 2022. It requested your
6 appearance here today, Judge.

7 MR. FITZPATRICK: I am getting a
8 message that its -- I have screen sharing
9 disabled.

10 MR. KEATING: I turned it on.
11 Thank you.

12 Q. Judge, are you able to see the
13 exhibit on screen?

14 A. Yes, I have it right here as
15 well.

16 Q. Did you receive this letter?

17 A. I did.

18 Q. With all of its enclosures?

19 A. Yes, I have the whole packet
20 right here.

21 Q. You are here pursuant to this
22 letter?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. Before we begin, Judge, I would
25 just ask you some background questions.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Could you please state and spell your full
2 first and last name.

3 A. Yes, it's Jeremy Persons, spelled
4 J-E-R-E-M-Y, last name is P-E-R-S-O-N-S.

5 Q. What is your date of birth?

6 A. [REDACTED].

7 Q. Your home address.

8 A. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Mount Upton,
9 New York 13809.

10 Q. And your court address.

11 A. 203 Marble Road, Guilford, New
12 York.

13 Q. Judge, what is your home phone
14 number?

15 A. [REDACTED].

16 Q. Your cell phone number.

17 A. [REDACTED].

18 Q. And a court phone number.

19 A. Off the top of my head, I don't
20 recall it right at the moment.

21 MS. JOSHI: Okay. We can get
22 that from you later.

23 Q. Judge, what is your email
24 address, your NY Courts email address?

25 A. [REDACTED]@NYCourts.gov.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Q. Do you have a personal email
2 address?

3 A. Yes, [REDACTED]@gmail.

4 MS. JOSHI: Thank you.

5 Q. Judge, could you give us -- tell
6 us what your educational background is,
7 starting from college?

8 A. No college, high school graduate.

9 Q. Do you have any employment
10 outside of your judgeship?

11 A. No, I am fully disabled.

12 Q. When and how did you become a
13 town justice?

14 A. It would have been in January of
15 2020.

16 Q. Were you elected?

17 A. I was elected, yes.

18 Q. When does your current term
19 expire?

20 A. December 31, 2023.

21 Q. What is your judicial salary?

22 A. I get, like, a little over six
23 hundred dollars a month.

24 MS. JOSHI: Ryan, could we mark
25 as Exhibit 2, the administrative order

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 298-2021.

2 Q. Judge, are you able to see the
3 administrative order?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Did you receive this order?

6 A. I don't recall this order, no.

7 Q. This order is dated October 15,
8 2021. It temporarily reassigned all the
9 matters that were pending in front of you
10 and prevented any new matters from being
11 heard by you. This is not an order that you
12 had received?

13 A. I don't recall receiving it, no.

14 Q. Is it true that matters pending
15 in front of you were temporarily reassigned?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And that you are not hearing
18 anymore cases at this time?

19 A. Correct, I am not hearing any
20 cases at this time.

21 Q. Could you explain, Judge, under
22 what circumstances this order would have
23 been issued?

24 A. I believe it was issued due to
25 the fact I was late on turning in my

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 financial reports.

2 Q. Were there any other issues?

3 A. As far as I know that was the
4 only issue.

5 Q. At this time, Judge, are you
6 permitted access to your chambers in court?

7 A. I probably could, but I haven't
8 been in lately.

9 Q. Why not?

10 A. I just haven't. There's issues
11 with the co-judge that -- I don't trust her.

12 Q. Why do you say that?

13 A. Things that had happened when I
14 was in the hospital last year where I almost
15 died, and when I came back things just
16 weren't adding up, and she kept trying to
17 throw me under the bus, and it just made me
18 not trust her.

19 Q. Judge, prior to this
20 administrative order coming into effect,
21 when did you hold court?

22 A. Thursday nights.

23 Q. Did you -- was that the only day
24 in the week that you held court?

25 A. That I held court, yes,

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Thursdays.

2 Q. Did you have any other office
3 hours where you were in court, but not
4 presiding?

5 A. Whenever I was there, yeah, I
6 could just go in freely.

7 Q. How often would you do that?

8 A. Probably a few times a week.

9 Q. Did have you any specific ADA
10 days or public defender days or traffic
11 court days?

12 A. I had one ADA. That was the
13 fourth Thursday of every month.

14 Q. Was that all? Were there other
15 days specified for traffic court cases?

16 A. Every Thursday I had court. Just
17 the ADA day was the fourth Thursday.

18 Q. You said, Judge, you mentioned
19 your co-judge. Who was that?

20 A. Karen Osborn.

21 Q. Do you have any other court
22 staff?

23 A. Just the bailiff.

24 Q. No court clerk?

25 A. Nope. Our town board refuses to

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 hire one.

2 MS. JOSHI: Ryan, could we go
3 back to Exhibit 1, again, please?

4 Q. Judge, you mentioned that you
5 received this request, this letter
6 requesting your appearance today. How did
7 you receive it?

8 A. UPS.

9 MS. JOSHI: Could we --

10 Q. Judge, as part of the package
11 that you received there were three letters
12 that the Commission had previously mailed to
13 you as part of this investigation. Did you
14 receive the Commission's letter dated June
15 23, 2021, which asked you for information
16 pertaining to this investigation?

17 A. If it weren't sent here then, no,
18 I did not, to my house. It was sent to the
19 Guilford Town Court.

20 Q. So you did not receive it?

21 A. I did not.

22 Q. Was it also sent to your email
23 address?

24 A. Not that I am aware of. I can
25 look.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Q. Judge, you responded to that
2 inquiry letter on July 21, 2021. Do you
3 remember doing that?

4 A. I remember responding to initial
5 questions as to why I did not file my
6 financials on time, but I don't remember
7 responding to any letter. Keep in mind, at
8 that time, I was just out of the hospital
9 after I had almost passed away myself.

10 MS. JOSHI: Judge, we will get
11 into that.

12 Q. Did you partially respond to the
13 June 23rd letter from the Commission?

14 A. I may have. I don't recall.

15 MS. JOSHI: Ryan, could you mark
16 as Exhibit 3, Judge's response dated July
17 23, 2021, please.

18 MR. FITZPATRICK: Is that part of
19 Exhibit 1 somewhere?

20 MS. JOSHI: I don't believe so.

21 MR. FITZPATRICK: I will need
22 just a few minutes.

23 MS. JOSHI: Thank you.

24 Q. Judge, did you recognize --

25 A. Yes, I do recognize that.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Q. Judge, this was a partial
2 response to Commission's letter dated June
3 23rd. Why did you fail to provide a
4 complete response to the Commission?

5 A. I honestly can't answer that. I
6 mean I was, like I said, I had just gotten
7 out of the hospital from almost dying at the
8 time, and I still wasn't -- I don't know how
9 to say it, but I wasn't right.

10 Q. Judge, when were you in the
11 hospital?

12 A. I went in the beginning of June.

13 Q. What were you hospitalized for?

14 A. Pulmonary embolisms.

15 Q. How long did you have to be in
16 the hospital?

17 A. I was in for a week.

18 Q. So when you responded to the
19 Commission on July 23rd, you had been
20 released from the hospital?

21 A. Yes. I didn't start back -- I
22 didn't start going back to the courthouse
23 until July after getting out of the
24 hospital, because I still sick, even when I
25 went back to work I was still sick. I had

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 oxygen sitting on my bench next to me so.

2 Q. Why didn't you seek additional
3 time from the Commission to respond to the
4 letter?

5 A. I really don't know.

6 MS. JOSHI: Ryan, can we show on
7 the screen -- we can take this one down.
8 Thank you. Exhibit 1, page 28 for the
9 inquiry letter dated August 26th.

10 Q. Judge, this is Commission's
11 second letter to you dated August 26th?

12 A. Yes.

13 MS. JOSHI: Sorry.

14 Q. Judge, it is also on the screen;
15 if you would like to see.

16 A. Yes. Was there a question?

17 Q. This is the follow-up letter that
18 the Commission sent to you on August 26th
19 with additional questions and a response to
20 your earlier, the earlier June 23rd letter.
21 Why did you fail to respond to this
22 follow-up letter?

23 A. To be completely honest, the
24 question number 1 really upset me, where it
25 wanted more details of my illness.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Q. Judge, are you referring to -- I
2 am going to pause you there. Are you
3 referring to question number 1 on the August
4 26th letter?

5 A. Correct. Being when I was
6 hospitalized wanting specific questions,
7 specific stuff about my illness, it just
8 bothered me.

9 Q. Did you understand, Judge, why we
10 were asking those question?

11 A. No, I didn't understand why you
12 needed to know the seriousness of my
13 illness. I almost died and I put that in
14 the first answers.

15 Q. What about the other questions on
16 this letter that didn't relate to your
17 medical conditions?

18 A. To be honest, like I said, the
19 first one just threw me off, and I handled
20 it wrong, yes, I totally agree with that,
21 but at the time I was dealing with a lot of
22 what had just happened to me, and I still
23 am. It's hard to deal with realizing you
24 are not invincible.

25 Q. Judge, did you understand at that

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 time that you were under investigation by
2 the Commission for failing to complete
3 monthly reports and for other allegations
4 that were notified to you?

5 A. At that time, all I knew of was
6 the filing of the reports, and then they
7 threw in the whole license thing, which I
8 had no idea about until I went and looked
9 into it further and found out that happened
10 when I just moved up to where I currently
11 live now and forgotten all about what
12 happened down there in Johnson City, but as
13 soon as I found out about it I went and
14 contacted their court and did what I had to.

15 Q. Judge, you subsequently also
16 failed to respond to Commission's third
17 letter that was dated September 30th that
18 was seeking additional responses from you
19 and following up since the Commission had
20 not heard anything. Did you receive that
21 letter?

22 A. This letter I did not get.

23 Q. Judge, the letter that is dated
24 September 30, 2021 was sent to your court
25 address in Guilford and your home address in

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Mount Upton by certified mail. The
2 certified mail that was sent to the court
3 was received on October 2 of 2021 at,
4 approximately, 1:39 p.m., and the certified
5 mail that was sent to your house address was
6 returned to us as unclaimed on October 30th.

7 MS. JOSHI: Ryan, could you
8 please go to page 52 of Exhibit 1.

9 Q. Judge, this is the certified mail
10 proof of delivery for delivery at your court
11 address.

12 A. Okay.

13 MS. JOSHI: If we could go to
14 page 53. This is the proof of delivery or
15 that it was returned to sender for the
16 letter that was sent by certified mail to
17 your home address.

18 Q. Judge, did you receive a notice
19 that there was certified mail for you at the
20 house?

21 A. No, not at all. I live a block
22 away from the post office. I would have
23 walked down and got it.

24 Q. So you never received the
25 September 30th letter?

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 A. I did not. I didn't have any
2 access to my court email for the longest
3 time.

4 Q. You didn't have access?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. When was that?

7 A. Most all of last -- the second
8 half of last year.

9 Q. Why didn't you have access?

10 A. I was not at my courthouse and
11 for some reason it wasn't letting me on, on
12 my tablet.

13 Q. Judge, on October 15, 2021, our
14 Deputy Administrator, Cathleen Cenci called
15 your cell phone and left a message for you
16 about your failure to respond to any of the
17 Commission's letters. Why did you not call
18 back or respond to the letters?

19 A. Can I look on my phone to see if
20 its there?

21 Q. Sure?

22 A. Okay. Hold on. When was it
23 done?

24 Q. On or about October 15th.

25 A. I don't delete anything so if

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 it's -- you said October 15th?

2 Q. Judge, I can give you a cell
3 phone number and tell you that is the number
4 that we called. It was [REDACTED]; is
5 that your cell phone?

6 A. That is my cell phone. It's a
7 piece of crap cell phone, but it's my cell
8 phone.

9 Q. That was cell phone that the
10 message was left on. Why did you not call
11 her back? Did you not get this message?

12 A. I don't have a message. I go
13 from October 14th getting a call from a
14 Binghamton number to 11-7 from my ex-wife
15 out in Arizona.

16 Q. Judge, when you received the
17 letter that requested your appearance today,
18 did you also note on the letter we were
19 requesting some documents from you?

20 A. Yes, I did, and I wanted to get
21 them to you, but I was dealing with a very
22 sick wife, which I almost lost. When I say
23 "last weekend," I don't mean, like,
24 yesterday and the day before. It was the
25 weekend before.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Q. Okay.

2 A. I have been dealing with her
3 illness for sometime now.

4 Q. What happened to your wife?

5 A. I will be completely honest. I
6 have no idea. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
7 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
8 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
9 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I don't
13 know. It's hard.

14 THE WITNESS: Excuse me.

15 Q. How long has she been ill?

16 A. A few months now.

17 Q. Judge, why didn't you think to
18 ask for an extension or inform the
19 Commission that you weren't able to respond
20 to us?

21 A. I was preoccupied with my wife.

22 MS. JOSHI: We will move on,
23 Judge.

24 Q. Judge, are you aware of the town
25 and village --

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 MS. JOSHI: Judge, did you need a
2 minute?

3 THE WITNESS: Yes, please.

4 THE REFEREE: Counsel, should we
5 take a five-minute break?

6 MS. JOSHI: We can take a
7 five-minute break?

8 THE WITNESS: No, we can keep
9 going.

10 MS. JOSHI: We will go ahead.

11 Q. Judge, are you aware that town
12 and village justices are personally
13 responsible for the monies that they receive
14 in the court?

15 A. Yes, I am.

16 Q. Did you receive any training for
17 record keeping or financial accounting?

18 A. Just what little bit we were
19 taught in training, which isn't very, very
20 much.

21 Q. Do you have any standard
22 practices as it relates to the financial
23 accounting in the courthouse?

24 A. My thing was if I got the money I
25 had my bank bag. I would put the money in

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 the bank bag and I would take it to the
2 bank, and I would add it and put everything
3 into the system like I was supposed to.

4 Q. What do you mean by "bank bag?"

5 A. I will show you. (Indicating).

6 This is the money bag.

7 Q. You are displaying a pouch by the
8 name of NBT Bank?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. Who collected the fines from
11 defendants in the courthouse?

12 A. I did.

13 Q. Were receipts issued to
14 defendants each time the money was
15 collected?

16 A. Yes, unless it was received by
17 mail and they did not send a self-addressed
18 stamped envelope. They would not get a
19 receipt, but I would still print a receipt
20 for our records.

21 Q. You issued the receipts to the
22 defendants?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. Were these preprinted receipt
25 forms?

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 A. No, they were printed off by the
2 court program.

3 Q. Did the court maintain duplicates
4 of each of the receipts that you gave to the
5 defendants?

6 A. Did the court do what now?

7 Q. Did the court maintain duplicate
8 copies of these receipts, for ones for the
9 defendant, one for the court file?

10 A. Correct, yes.

11 Q. Where did you keep these
12 duplicate copies?

13 A. In a file in a cabinet.

14 Q. Did you have a cash receipt book?

15 A. I did not. Just what was
16 available through the court program.

17 Q. Typically, Judge, how soon after
18 receiving -- after issuing a receipt would
19 these receipts be recorded in some sort of,
20 you know, log? Would you record them?

21 A. Just under the courtroom program.

22 Q. What was that program?

23 A. The SEI courtroom program.

24 Q. How did you document receipt of
25 bail monies?

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 A. Same way, but I never received
2 any bail monies.

3 Q. Could you describe when you say
4 "same way?"

5 A. Like I said, I never received any
6 bail money, so I never had to do it, so I
7 really can't answer that question.

8 Q. You did not have a bail book?

9 A. I had one account. That's where
10 my fines would go and bail money would go,
11 but, like I said, I never had to do anything
12 with the bail because I never got any bail
13 monies in.

14 THE WITNESS: Excuse me. Sorry.

15 Q. Judge, when you first began
16 presiding in 2020, did you open a new bank
17 account or did you inherit a bank account?

18 A. Opened my own.

19 Q. Which bank is this?

20 A. NBT Bank.

21 Q. Were fine monies deposited in the
22 court's bank account?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did you do that depositing?

25 A. Yes, I did all the depositing.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Q. Did you ever fail to deposit any
2 fine monies that you received?

3 A. Never.

4 Q. How soon after collecting the
5 fines did you make such deposits into the
6 court's bank account?

7 A. I had up to 72 hours, but
8 normally, usually the next day or the day
9 after that because I had court Thursday
10 night, so I had Friday and Saturday morning
11 to do it.

12 Q. How would you generally keep
13 track of all the money that you received as
14 fines collected in your court?

15 A. Through the courtroom program.

16 Q. Judge, was there ever an instance
17 where you failed to deposit within the 72
18 hours as required by law?

19 A. There may have been a couple of
20 times. It may have been, like, on the
21 Monday, but it wasn't done religiously. It
22 may have been something where something came
23 up and I couldn't get to the bank on that
24 Friday or Saturday so I had to wait until
25 Monday, but that was as late as it had ever

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 been.

2 Q. Can you identify any cases or any
3 payments that you know were not deposited
4 timely?

5 A. Not off the top of my head I
6 couldn't, no.

7 Q. What would you do with the money
8 that you did not deposit within the 72
9 hours?

10 A. It always stayed locked up in my
11 safe here at the house until I got to the
12 bank.

13 Q. Where was the location again?

14 A. The safe?

15 Q. Yes.

16 A. In my house.

17 Q. Who has access to the safe other
18 than you?

19 A. Just me. I have the only key.

20 Q. Judge, did you ever use court
21 funds for personal use?

22 A. Hell no. Sorry. No, never.

23 Q. Did you ever borrow court funds
24 and return them later?

25 A. Never, absolutely not.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Q. Judge, did you keep track of
2 disbursements of these court monies when the
3 money was disbursed?

4 A. Going to the town, you mean?

5 Q. Yes.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. How did you do that?

8 A. My monthly financials every
9 month. I have a book. I actually have it
10 here with me right now that I have a form
11 where I go through and I make sure that I
12 did everything and I kept copies of
13 everything.

14 Q. Did you ever fail to record a
15 disbursement in your records?

16 A. No. I may have been late on
17 them, but I never failed to do it.

18 Q. When you were late for
19 disbursements, why would that happen?

20 A. Me being sick. That's when my
21 lates happened.

22 Q. At the end of the month, Judge,
23 did you have a standard practice to do a
24 reconciliation of the bank balances to the
25 money that was received?

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 A. Yes, I have a form that I went
2 by.

3 Q. Can you explain?

4 A. Can you wait one second? I will
5 show you the form.

6 Q. If you could explain it, since we
7 are on virtual platform it would be --

8 A. It is, basically, a form that my
9 ex co-judge had done up that we used. It,
10 basically, was a checklist. Make sure you
11 do this report, this report, this report and
12 then make sure it is all sent in, your
13 beginning balance, your ending balance, just
14 stuff like that.

15 Q. Anything, Judge, that you wanted
16 to show us, if you don't mind providing a
17 record -- a copy of that for us when you
18 provide documents?

19 A. I can, yes.

20 MS. JOSHI: Thank you.

21 Q. How often would you do this
22 reconciliation?

23 A. Every month.

24 Q. At the end of the month?

25 A. Beginning. As hard as I tried to

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 get online access with my bank, I was never
2 able to get it, so I would have to wait for
3 them to send out my monthly report, which I
4 wouldn't get until, like, the day before the
5 reports were due.

6 Q. Who would you not get it from?

7 A. The bank.

8 Q. When you were reconciling, Judge,
9 what records are you comparing?

10 A. Monies coming in, in the cases.

11 Q. And you would compare that with?

12 A. I would compare it with the
13 courtroom program, my list of deposits that
14 the courtroom program kept for me and went
15 along with their cases.

16 Q. Were there ever instances that
17 the amounts did not match?

18 A. Not usually no, except for after
19 I came back from being in the hospital. My
20 ex co-judge and I, we had an agreement that
21 when monies would come via mail we would
22 search the person's name on the outside of
23 the envelope. If it was my case, he would
24 set it aside. If it was his case, he would
25 open it. I would do the same thing. If it

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 was his case, I would set it aside, but
2 there are times when that name did not match
3 with a case that we had so we would open it.

4 If it was a money order, we would
5 then search that name. That would then get
6 put on their desk in their chambers so it's
7 safe until they were able to get it, and
8 then record the monies, but with the new
9 judge that we have now that's never
10 happened. I don't know what she was doing
11 with the monies, but when I came back from
12 being sick things just weren't adding up.

13 Q. So did you investigate and
14 resolve any of the differences that you saw
15 when you came back?

16 A. I tried.

17 Q. What did you do?

18 A. I just tried to figure out where
19 things were going, but every time we had a
20 meeting -- well, the first time I ever found
21 out a big one, we had a meeting with the
22 town board and my co-judge right off the bat
23 says, I want to bring something up. There's
24 this case with a check for six hundred
25 something dollars that Jeremy was supposed

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 to take care of and it hasn't been done. I
2 go, "What case are you talking about? I
3 know nothing about this." Well, the check
4 was never deposited, blah, blah, blah. I'm,
5 like, "I know nothing about this."

6 It was just things like that
7 where she would wait to an opportune moment
8 where we were in front of someone where she
9 would throw me under the bus on something I
10 knew nothing about.

11 Q. Judge, do you know what case this
12 is?

13 A. Off the top of my head, no, but I
14 could figure it out once I got to my
15 caseload; if I am even allowed to do that,
16 at this point. I mean I did talk with the
17 Commission for the financial part. He
18 understood where I was coming from and we
19 were starting to work on getting that
20 cleared up, but I don't know what happened
21 there.

22 Q. I'm sorry, Judge, who did you
23 speak with?

24 A. I don't recall his name. He was
25 with the financial side of -- they had an

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 audit. They did an audit.

2 Q. This is with the town?

3 A. With the State, a State audit.

4 Q. Judge, are you aware that by law
5 as a town or village you are required to
6 report to the State Comptroller monthly all
7 the court activities that happened in the
8 proceeding month?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. You are aware that the due date
11 for these reports are between the first and
12 tenth of the month for the proceeding month?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. Could you describe your
15 understanding of what you are required to
16 report to the Office of the State
17 Comptroller?

18 A. All of our financials for the
19 previous month.

20 Q. Did you file monthly reports to
21 the state comptroller by the tenth of each
22 month reporting court activities for the
23 prior month?

24 A. If I had the bank statements,
25 yes, I did, but like I said just previously,

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 that there are times when I wouldn't get the
2 statements until the day before the 10th, so
3 on the 9th, and there were times when I
4 wouldn't get it until the middle of the
5 month.

6 I had conversations with the bank
7 about this. I said I need these things
8 sooner. I tried getting online access and
9 the bank would say someone at the town
10 needed to sign an access form. The town
11 supervisor said, no, the bank has to do it.
12 I was being led in six different directions
13 on one leash.

14 Q. With each of these monthly
15 reports, Judge, did you also send to the
16 State Comptroller the checks that were
17 required to remit fines, penalties that were
18 received in the cases?

19 A. Yes, I did, and I have copies of
20 every check I wrote.

21 THE WITNESS: Can you hang on one
22 second? I have to send my sick son back to
23 his room.

24 MS. JOSHI: Judge Clark, if we
25 could take a five to ten-minute break right

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 now? That would be good.

2 THE REFEREE: Sure. We will
3 reconvene at 11:10.

4 MS. JOSHI: That works. Thank
5 you.

6 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

7 MR. KEATING: We are off the
8 record.

9 (A recess was taken.)

10 MR. KEATING: We are back on the
11 record.

12 MS. JOSHI: I will continue.

13 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

14 **BY MS. JOSHI:**

15 MS. JOSHI: Ryan, could we please
16 show the Judge **Exhibit 1**, page 28, which has
17 the Commission's second letter dated August
18 26, 2021.

19 Q. Judge, are you able to see this
20 on the screen?

21 A. Yes, I am.

22 Q. Judge, this is the letter that we
23 previously talked about. The second letter
24 from the Commission following up on your
25 partial response dated July 23rd, and also

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 seeking additional responses from you.

2 Judge, is it your testimony that the reason
3 you did not respond to this letter because
4 the question it asked about your medical
5 information?

6 A. Yes.

7 MS. JOSHI: Ryan, could you
8 scroll to the next page, please.

9 Q. Judge, the Commission -- you
10 understand the Commission was asking these
11 questions because you raised your medical
12 condition as a reason for failing to
13 respond, failing to submit your monthly
14 reports for December 2020 and March 2021?

15 A. Right, but in my first response I
16 went into quite detail about what had
17 happened to me.

18 MS. JOSHI: Ryan, could we go
19 back and show the Judge's response on the
20 screen, please.

21 A. That was only part of what I sent
22 in.

23 Q. Yes.

24 MS. JOSHI: Ryan, could we scroll
25 down, please.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 A. If you go back up, right there,
2 answer to question number 1.

3 Q. Yes, and, Judge, do you see the
4 response that you wrote to us:

5 "It has since been fixed.

6 Starting last year I started to become
7 ill. I had many tests done with no
8 luck finding what was wrong."

9 Do you see that?

10 A. Yeah, I see that, then late
11 February, early March I started getting
12 really ill.

13 Q. So the reason the Commission was
14 asking you follow-up questions about your
15 illness was as they related to your failure
16 to submit your monthly reports. When were
17 you -- what was your hospitalization or
18 illness during time that these monthly
19 reports were due? Could you elaborate on
20 that?

21 A. It started out as being double
22 pneumonia.

23 Q. Could you give us the timeline of
24 when it started?

25 A. December of 2020. I started

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 getting sick where I couldn't breathe, then
2 it progressively got worse where the only
3 time I could breathe was sitting in front of
4 an air conditioner or sitting in one of my
5 vehicles with the air conditioner blasting
6 into my face.

7 Many nights I thought I was dying
8 because I couldn't breathe, and then when it
9 finally got to the point where I ended up
10 being taken to the hospital in an ambulance
11 and was told on the first day that if I
12 hadn't showed up I would have had only hours
13 to live.

14 Q. When were you taken to the
15 hospital?

16 A. Beginning of June.

17 Q. Judge, how does that relate to
18 your failure to submit reports that were due
19 in December 2020 and of 2021 if you were not
20 in the hospital until much later in June?

21 A. Just like I was saying, there --
22 I was having a hard time breathing. There
23 was many nights I didn't hold court because
24 of it. I just couldn't -- I couldn't even
25 walk let alone do other things without

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 pretty much hitting the ground because I
2 couldn't breathe.

3 Q. Did you take any medical leave as
4 a result of this condition?

5 A. Not officially, no.

6 Q. What do you mean by "not
7 officially?"

8 A. I didn't officially ask for
9 medical leave.

10 Q. But you had to be --

11 A. They were aware of what was going
12 on and they worked with me. My co-judge
13 tried covering when she could.

14 Q. What duration was this when your
15 co-judge was covering for you?

16 A. During the time period of January
17 2021 to July 2021, and then it started back
18 up probably around August or September of
19 2021.

20 Q. August and September of 2021 she
21 had to cover for you again?

22 A. Yes, she had to start taking back
23 over and she has since then.

24 Q. Were you appearing in court at
25 all between January 2021 and July 2021?

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 A. Sporadically. I couldn't tell
2 you what nights I did and didn't show up at
3 this point. I just know during that time
4 frame I was very sick, and I didn't know
5 what was going on until I got to the
6 hospital. I was scared to tell you the
7 least.

8 Q. But you were taken to the
9 hospital in June; is that correct?

10 A. Correct. I'm a guy. I refused
11 the help more than I should have. I see
12 that now.

13 MS. JOSHI: We can take this off
14 the screen. Thank you.

15 Ryan, could you show Exhibit 1,
16 page five on the screen. This is the stop
17 salary letter dated May 20, 2021 from the
18 Justice Court Fund to the Town Supervisor
19 George Seneck.

20 Q. Judge, did you receive this stop
21 salary letter?

22 A. After the fact, yes.

23 Q. What do you mean by "after the
24 fact?" When did you receive it?

25 A. After my salary was stopped.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 Q. Did you receive no communication
2 from the Justice Court Fund telling you that
3 you were delinquent on your monthly reports?

4 A. I don't remember.

5 Q. Sorry, Judge, you cut off.

6 A. Like I said, the whole first half
7 of -- the first half of last year was very
8 much of a blur, but I don't remember much of
9 it.

10 Q. Judge, did you fail to file the
11 monthly reports with the State Comptroller
12 for December 2020 and March 2021 as they
13 indicate in the stop salary letter?

14 MS. JOSHI: I think the Judge is
15 frozen on the screen.

16 THE REFEREE: I am also hearing a
17 little bit of a twang in the audio.

18 MR. KEATING: Let's just give him
19 a minute to see if he comes back.

20 We lost the feed.

21 We are going to go off the record
22 until we are back.

23 (A recess was taken.)

24 MR. KEATING: We are back on the
25 record.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 THE WITNESS: All right.

2 MR. KEATING: Shruti, you might
3 want to -- can you just give a little heads
4 up of what is happening?

5 MS. JOSHI: Yes. So we have
6 Judge Persons on phone, by his -- through
7 his cell phone on the Zoom platform. He is
8 not available virtually because his network
9 went down.

10 Is that correct, Judge?

11 THE WITNESS: That is correct.

12 MS. JOSHI: Judge, do we have any
13 idea if it will come back up and running any
14 time soon?

15 THE WITNESS: I have no clue. It
16 just dropped out. I reset my modem twice
17 now and it's not coming back up, so it's got
18 to be somewhere outside.

19 MS. JOSHI: You said this was a
20 Spectrum outage?

21 THE WITNESS: Correct, yes.

22 MS. JOSHI: Judge, at this point,
23 since we don't know if you will have any
24 internet functioning any time soon, we
25 decided that we could adjourn the rest of

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 the testimony and continue on a later date,
2 but we would have you come into our Albany
3 office and appear in person for the
4 testimony. You would still be doing this
5 virtually, but with the facility of the
6 Commission so we don't have this issue
7 again.

8 We are likely going to schedule
9 it for sometime soon based on everyone's
10 availability. I guess we will follow up
11 with you on other dates, possibly, sometime
12 this week or within the next week.

13 THE WITNESS: Okay.

14 MS. JOSHI: For you to come into
15 the office and do it through our system
16 here.

17 THE WITNESS: All right.

18 MS. JOSHI: Okay, Judge?

19 THE WITNESS: That works for me.

20 MS. JOSHI: Could we take a two
21 minutes quick break, please?

22 MR. KEATING: I am going to go
23 off the record.

24 (A recess was taken.)

25 MR. KEATING: We are back on the

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 record.

2 Either Shruti or the Referee.

3 MS. JOSHI: Judge, we are going
4 to take a 20-minute break right now to see
5 if your internet comes back up, and then if
6 it does we will continue with our hearing
7 today, and if it does not, we would then
8 decide the next date for you to come into
9 the office, in our Albany office to do this
10 through our Commission set up.

11 Would that be okay, Judge? We
12 will see you, again, in 20 minutes, or hear
13 from you in 20 minutes?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes, I will get
15 with you either way.

16 MR. KEATING: Thank you.

17 MS. JOSHI: Thank you.

18 THE WITNESS: Not a problem.

19 MR. KEATING: We are off the
20 record.

21 (A recess was taken.)

22 MR. KEATING: Just to let you
23 know the Judge's internet connection did not
24 come back up. We only have him via phone
25 right now.

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 We are back on the record.

2 THE WITNESS: All right.

3 MS. JOSHI: Judge, what we are
4 going to do is we are going to adjourn
5 today's hearing, and we would reschedule it
6 to this Friday, which is April 8th, and we
7 would do it again at 10 o'clock in the
8 morning.

9 Ms. Clark, would that be okay
10 with you?

11 THE REFEREE: Yes.

12 MS. JOSHI: Judge, this would be
13 in person in the sense that you would be
14 here in our Albany office in our conference
15 room. You will be set up with a computer
16 with video and audio. Rich would help you
17 do that. We would be in our offices and we
18 would be back on the screen just like we are
19 today.

20 THE WITNESS: All right. Now
21 that is the Corning Tower, Suite 2301?

22 MS. JOSHI: Yes, it is.

23 THE WITNESS: All right. Make
24 sure I have the address.

25 MS. JOSHI: Judge, are you able

(Direct - Hon. J. Persons)

1 to access your email address, the
2 NYCourts.gov email address?

3 THE WITNESS: I am now that I got
4 my Outlook fixed on my tablet, yes.

5 MS. JOSHI: Okay. And you have
6 the date noted? It's April 8th, this Friday
7 at 10 am.

8 THE WITNESS: 4-8-22 at 10 am.

9 MS. JOSHI: I have nothing
10 further.

11 THE WITNESS: All right.

12 MR. KEATING: Thank you, guys.

13 THE REFEREE: Thanks everyone.

14 JUDGE PERSONS: I will see you on
15 Friday.

16 MS. JOSHI: Thank you.

17 MR. KEATING: We are off the
18 record.

19 (TIME NOTED: 12:10 PM.)

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EXHIBITS

<u>COMMISSION'S</u>	<u>IDENT</u>
1 Letter addressed to Judge Persons from Deputy Administrator Cathleen Cenci dated March 11, 2022	11
2 Administrative order 298-2021	13
3 Judge Persons' response dated July 23, 2021	18

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CERTIFICATION

I, DEIRDRE PLEVritis, a Notary
Public in and for the State of New
York, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing is a true and
accurate transcript of my stenographic
notes, in the matter held on April 4,
2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand this 4th day of
April 2022.

Deirdre Plevritis

DEIRDRE PLEVritis



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

JOSEPH W. BELLUCK, CHAIR
TAA GRAYS, VICE CHAIR
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CATHLEEN S. CENCI
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR

S. PETER PEDROTTY
KATHLEEN E. KLEIN
SENIOR ATTORNEYS

SHRUTI JOSHI
STAFF ATTORNEY

CONFIDENTIAL

April 5, 2022

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons
Guilford Town Justice
[REDACTED]
Mount Upton NY, 13809

Re: File Nos. 2021/A-0147, 2021/A-0178, 2021/A-0265, 2021/A-0266

Dear Judge Persons:

This is to confirm that due to a disruption in your internet connection on April 4, 2022, your appearance to give testimony has been adjourned and will resume on **Friday, April 8, 2022, at 10AM, when you will appear in person** at the Commission’s office in **Albany** at the **Corning Tower, Suite 2301, Empire State Plaza**. Directions to the Commission’s Albany office and parking are enclosed. Please note the requirement that you present a photo ID to gain entry to the Corning Tower.

Your testimony will be given remotely from a computer at the Commission’s offices in the same manner as was begun on April 4.

NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons

April 5, 2022

Page 2

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Very truly yours,



Cathleen S. Cenci
Deputy Administrator

Enclosure

VIA USPS

AND EMAIL TO: [REDACTED] [@NYCOURTS.GOV](mailto:[REDACTED]@NYCOURTS.GOV)

**DIRECTIONS TO COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT, ALBANY OFFICE
(Located on 23rd Floor, Corning Tower, Empire State Plaza)**

From the North: Take Interstate 1-87 (Northway) to Interstate 1-90 East (Exit# 1E). Take Interstate 1-90 East to Interstate 787 South. Take Exit #3A for the Empire State Plaza.

From the South: Take New York State Thruway (Interstate 87) to Exit 23-straight through Toll Booth to Interstate 787. Take Exit #3 for the Empire State Plaza.

From the East: Take Interstate 90 West to exit #B 1 (1-90). Continue on 1-90 to Interstate 787 South. Follow I-787 South to Exit #3A for the Empire State Plaza.

From the West: Take New York State Thruway (Interstate 90) to Exit 24 (Albany). Proceed east on Interstate 90 to Interstate 787 South. Take Exit #3A for the Empire State Plaza.

PARKING

See <https://empirestateplaza.ny.gov/parking> for available parking lots and fees. Note card only payment (no cash).

Attached are maps of the Empire State Plaza.

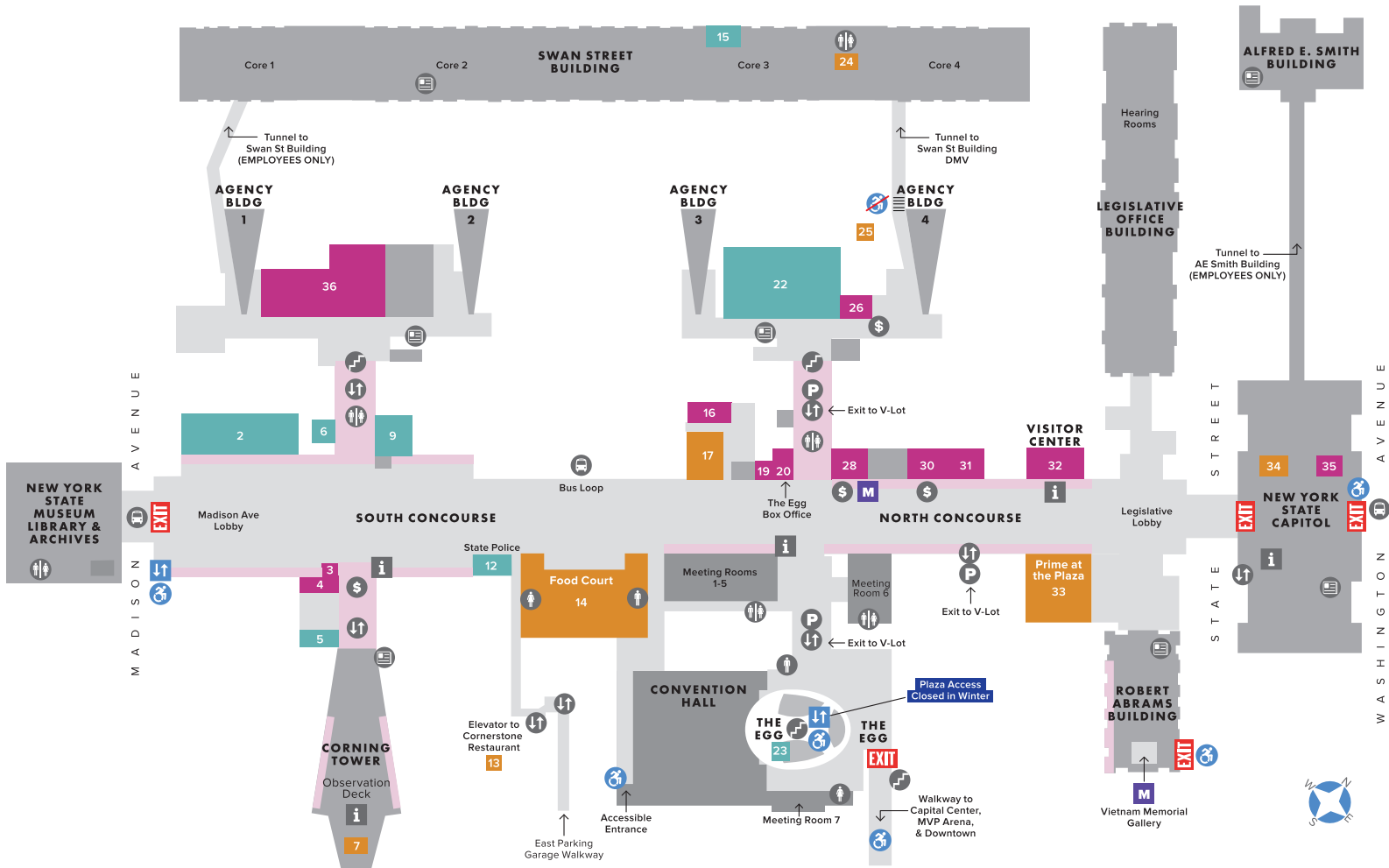
Please note that you will need a photo ID for parking and to enter the Corning Tower building.

Report to the guard's desk, located just before the entrance to Corning Tower on the Concourse Level, to obtain a visitor's pass. Take the second bank of elevators to the 23rd floor. Upon exiting the elevator, press the button located to the right of the glass doors.

WELCOME TO THE EMPIRE STATE PLAZA

empirestateplaza.ny.gov @ f b

CONCOURSE LEVEL



Map Key

- i** Information
- \$** ATM
- ↔** Exit to Plaza
- ↑↓** Elevator
- ↑↓** Elevator to Plaza Level **♿** Accessible
- P** Parking (use elevators)
- 🚌** CDTA Bus Stop
- 📰** Newsstand Convenience Store
- M** Memorials
Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial
Vietnam Memorial Gallery
- 🎨** Empire State Plaza Art Collection

Food

- 7** B-Rads Executive Bistro
ID or Visitor Pass required
- 13** Cornerstone at the Plaza
Plaza Level
- 14** Food Court
Au Bon Pain | Auntie Anne's | Bombers
Honest Weight | Kuma Ani | McDonald's
PBD Kitchen | Pho Yum
- 17** Logan's Deli and Market
- 24** Swan Street Cafeteria
WV Pizza
- 25** B-Rad's Express
Plaza Level
- 33** Prime at the Plaza Café
- 34** Dunkin Donuts

Services

- 3** Just Jewelry Repair
- 4** Post Office
- 16** American Red Cross
- 19** Patsy's Barber Shop
- 20** The Egg Box Office
- 26** Emblem Health Family Dental
- 28** KeyBank
- 30** SEFCU
- 31** SUNY Administration
- 32** Visitor Center & Gift Shop
- 35** Post Office
- 36** Retro Fitness

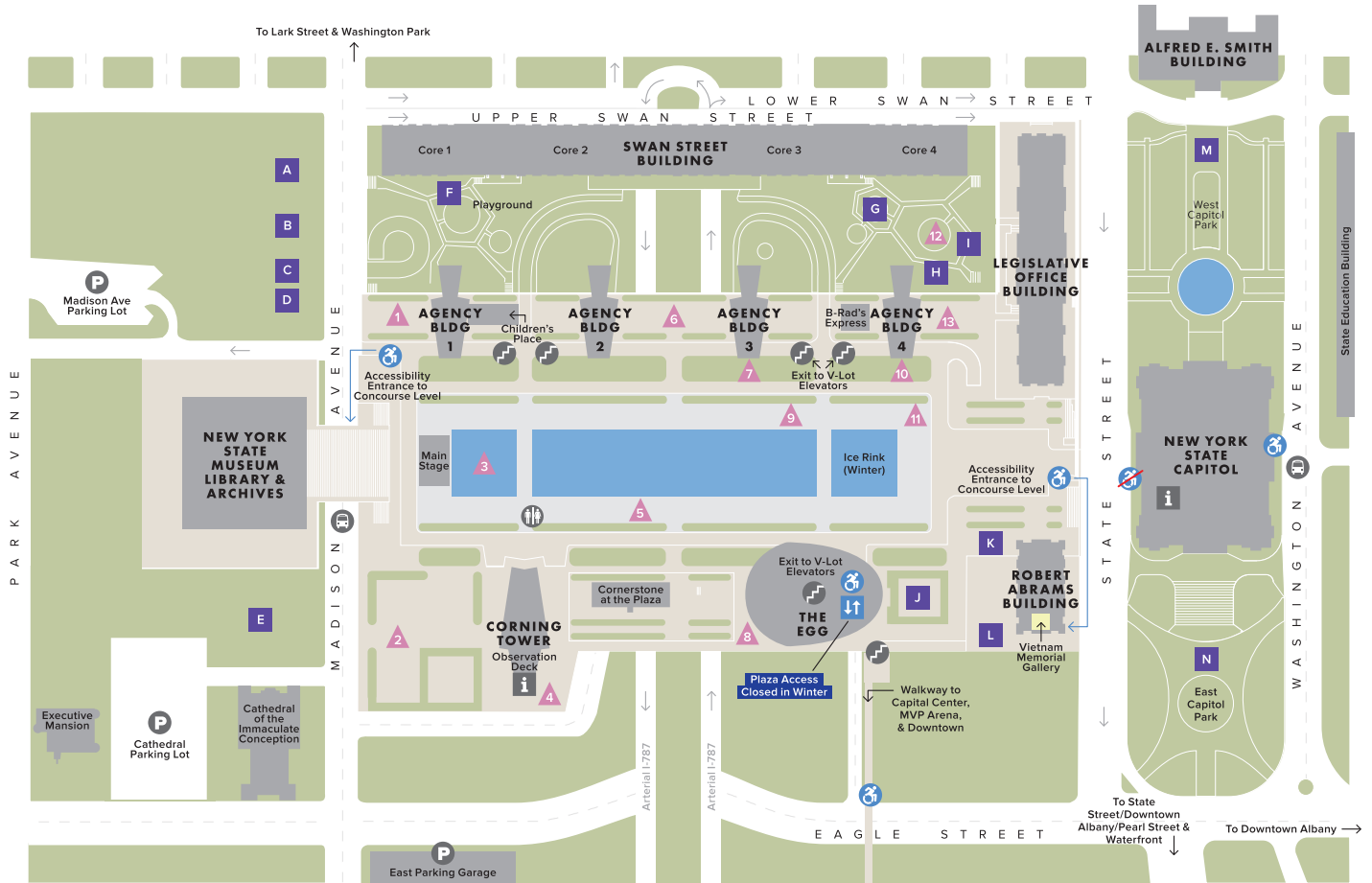
State Offices

- 2** Media Services Room #146
- 5** Conference Room #125
- 6** Parking Management
Room #144
- 9** Plaza Operations Room #130
- 12** NY State Police Room #115-1
- 15** Department of Motor Vehicles
- 22** Convention & Cultural Events,
Curatorial Services Room #120
- 23** Convention Center Office

WELCOME TO THE EMPIRE STATE PLAZA

empirestateplaza.ny.gov @ f b

PLAZA LEVEL



i Information
 ↑↓ Elevator to Concourse
 ↻ Exit to Concourse
 P Parking
 🚌 CDTA Bus Stop
 → One Way Street



▲ Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Art Collection

- 1 **Forrest Myers**, *Untitled*, 1969-70
- 2 **Francois Stahly**, *Labyrinth*, 1970-71
- 3 **Alexander Calder**, *Triangles and Arches*, 1965
- 4 **James Rosati**, *Lippincott I*, 1967
- 5 **George Sugarman**, *Trio*, 1969-71
- 6 **Clement Meadmore**, *Verge*, 1971-72
- 7 **Ellsworth Kelly**, *Yellow Blue*, 1968
- 8 **Antoni Milkowski**, *Salem 7, 1/3*. 1965-67
- 9 **George Rickey**, *Two Lines Oblique*, 1968-71
- 10 **Claes Oldenburg**, *Geometric Mouse*, Scale A, 1/6, 1969
- 11 **Ronald Bladen**, *The Cathedral Evening*, 1972
- 12 **Julius Schmidt**, *Untitled*, 1966
- 13 **Lyman Kipp**, *Wild Rice*, 1967

■ Memorials

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| A Missing Person Remembrance | L Vietnam Memorial |
| B Korean Veterans Memorial | M George Washington Memorial |
| C Women Veterans Memorial | N General Philip Henry Sheridan Memorial |
| D Purple Hearth Memorial | |
| E WWII Memorial | |
| F Children's Memorial | |
| G Police Officers Memorial | |
| H Parole Officers Memorial | |
| I Crime Victims Memorial | |
| J Fallen Firefighters Memorial | |
| K Emergency Medical Services Memorial | |

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**STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

-----X
In the Matter of an Investigation :
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 3 :
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to :
:
JEREMY L. PERSONS :
:
a Justice of the Guilford Town Court :
Chenango County. :
-----X

Via Zoom Video Conference
Albany, New York
April 8, 2022

10:42 AM

Before:

LINDA J. CLARK, ESQ.
Referee

Present:

SHRUTI JOSHI, ESQ.
Staff Attorney

Also present:

RYAN T. FITZPATRICK
Senior Investigator

RICHARD KEATING
Principal LAN Administrator

(Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Colloquy)

1 MR. KEATING: We are now on the
2 record.

3 MS. JOSHI: Thank you.

4 I would just note that we started
5 Judge Persons' testimony on Monday, April 4,
6 2022 at 10 am. Due to a disruption in his
7 internet connection we had to reschedule,
8 and we adjourned it for today, April 8th,
9 also at 10 am. We were scheduled to start
10 at 10:30.

11 Judge Persons was informed of
12 this new date and time on Monday on the
13 record. He confirmed that he would appear
14 in person at our office in Albany. Judge
15 Persons is not here.

16 I would like to mark as Exhibit
17 4.

18 Ryan, if you could please show on
19 screen the letter confirming the date and
20 time for Judge Persons' appearance today
21 along with directions to our office in
22 Albany.

23 This letter was sent to Judge
24 Persons' home address by regular mail and
25 also to his email, which he provided on

(Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Colloquy)

1 record on Monday as ██████████@NYCOURTS.GOV.

2 The time is now 10:43. We have not heard
3 anything from Judge Persons.

4 Senior Investigator Ryan
5 Fitzpatrick attempted a call to Judge
6 Persons a couple of minutes ago and his
7 phone went to voice mail. Judge Persons has
8 not made any contact with the Commission by
9 phone, email to let us know if he is running
10 behind or unable to attend today.

11 I have nothing further. That's
12 all.

13 Thank you.

14 THE REFEREE: Thank you, Counsel.

15 I think that, especially,
16 considering that Judge Persons understood
17 that he was supposed to be here at 10, even
18 though I was going to be a little bit
19 delayed, we are now well into, I think a
20 period where there has been no excuse or
21 notification to the Commission offered for a
22 delay.

23 We have been waiting patiently.
24 You have attempted to make cell phone
25 contact. You have your confirmation letter,

(Matter of Hon. Jeremy L. Persons - Colloquy)

1 so at this point, I think we are in a
2 position where we need to treat this
3 proceeding as a no show on Judge Persons'
4 part.

5 With that, I am comfortable
6 concluding the proceeding for the day.

7 Anything else for the record?

8 MS. JOSHI: No, thank you.

9 THE REFEREE: All right. So at
10 your convenience, Counsel, contact me and
11 let me know if you need anything further
12 from my perspective.

13 MS. JOSHI: I will. Thank you so
14 much.

15 THE REFEREE: All right. Thank
16 you. Bye bye now.

17 MR. KEATING: We are off the
18 record.

19 (TIME NOTED: 10:45 AM)

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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

COMMISSION

IDENT

4 April 4, 2022 letter

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CERTIFICATION

I, DEIRDRE PLEVRETTIS, a Notary
Public in and for the State of New
York, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing is a true and
accurate transcript of my stenographic
notes, in the matter held on April 8,
2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand this 8th
day of April 2022.



DEIRDRE PLEVRETTIS

C00015627
Date Of Issue:
12/11/2020
CARRY CONCEALED

STATE OF NEW YORK
Chenango County
LICENSE TO CARRY PISTOL
IS HEREBY GRANTED



JEREMY L PERSONS
[REDACTED]
MT UPTON, NY 13809

Occupation: JUDGE
Employer: TOWN OF GUILFORD
Nationality: AMERICAN
Date Of Birth: [REDACTED]
Ht: 74 Wt: 210



Sex: M

Frank B. R. J.

FRANK B. REVDOR SR Chenango County, Judge

THUMB PRINT



Signature of Permit Holder

THIS LICENSE IS ISSUED UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

1. It is revocable at any time.
2. If issued outside of New York City, not valid to carry a weapon in New York City unless approved by the Police Commissioner of that city.

Restriction: NONE

Permit Number: C00015627 - JEREMY L. PERSONS

Card 1 of 1

Make	Model	Caliber	Serial No.	Type
GLOCK	43	9 MM	ZMY464	SEMI-AUTO
UBERTI	1875 OUTLAW	45 COLT	UH5774	REVOLVER

New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct

VS

Hon. Jeremy L. Persons, Guilford Town Justice

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF OTSEGO, SS.:

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

Jim Wheeler, being sworn says:

Deponent is not a party herein is over the age of 18 years and resides in the State of New York.

On July 22, 2022, at 3:03 PM at [REDACTED], Deponent served the within Letter, Notice of Formal Written Complaint, Formal Written Complaint, Verification, with Exhibits

On: Hon. Jeremy L. Persons, Guilford Town Justice, Individual therein named.

#1 INDIVIDUAL

By delivering a true copy of each to said recipient personally; Deponent knew the person so served to be the person described in as said recipient therein.

#2 ENTITY/CORPORATION/LLC/LLP

By delivering to and leaving with said individual to be who specifically stated he/she was authorized to accept service on behalf of the Corporation/Government Agency/Entity.

#3 SUITABLE AGE PERSON

By delivering thereat a true copy of each to () a person of suitable age and discretion. Said premises is recipient's: [] actual place of business / employment [] dwelling house (usual place of abode) within the state.

#4 AFFIXING TO DOOR

By affixing a true copy of each to the door of said premises which is subjects [] actual place of business / employment [] dwelling house (usual place of abode) within the state. Deponent was unable with due diligence to find subject or person of suitable age and discretion thereat having attempted personal delivery on;

Address confirmation:

#5 MAILING

On , service was completed by mailing a true copy of above document(s) to [REDACTED] in a 1st Class postpaid properly addressed envelope marked "Personal and Confidential" in an official depository under the exclusive care and custody of the United States Post Office in the State of New York

#6 DESCRIPTION

Sex: Male Color of skin: White Color of hair: Bald Age: 46 yrs
Height: 6'2" Weight: Over 200 Lbs. Glasses: No Other Features:

#7 WITNESS FEES

The authorized witness fee and / or traveling expenses were paid (tendered) to the recipient in the amount of \$

#8 MILITARY SERVICE

Deponent asked person spoken to whether the person to be served is currently active in the military service of the United States or of the State of New York and was informed that said person is not.

#9 OTHER

Sworn to before me on July 22, 2022

Tina Wheeler
TINA WHEELER
Notary Public, State of New York
NO.01WH6125340
APPOINTED IN OTSEGO COUNTY
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES IN APRIL 18, 2025

Jim Wheeler
Process Server, Please Sign
Jim Wheeler

Job #: 2202790
Client's File No.: 2224598