



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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NEWS RELEASE

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Binghamton City Court Judge Should Be Censured for Contributing to Hostile Work Environment

The New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct has determined that Binghamton City Court Judge Daniel L. Seiden (Broome County) should be censured for contributing to a hostile work environment.

Judge Seiden agreed to the censure.

Beginning in 2023, when he objected to a change in the tracking of criminal cases from a manual to a web-based system, Judge Seiden disparaged his co-judges, denigrated the motivations of his administrative judge, blamed the chief court clerk for the loss of capable staff, and impugned the competence of the remaining court clerks, whom he said should “stay out of [his] shorts.” Among other things, Judge Seiden indicated he would adhere to the old case-tracking system.

Judge Seiden’s actions ultimately resulted in his reassignment to the Cortland City Court, where he continued to send disparaging emails to senior court officials, saying for example that their “arrogance [was] breathtaking” and that they were “intoxicated by power and privilege.”

In accepting the jointly recommended sanction of censure, the Commission noted that Judge Seiden acknowledged that his conduct was improper and that he “voluntarily completed programs offered by the Office of Court Administration regarding appropriate workplace communication.”

Judge Seiden has been a Judge of the Binghamton City Court since 2008. Although his current term expires on December 31, 2034, he will turn 70 years of age in 2028 and therefore must retire on December 31, 2028.

Statement by Commission Administrator

Commission Administrator Robert H. Tembeckjian made the following statement.

“Judges must be patient, dignified and courteous with all whom they interact in an official capacity. They are also obliged to cooperate with other judges and staff in the administration of the courts. Petulant quarreling with colleagues is neither productive nor conducive to the administration of justice.”

The Commission Proceedings

Judge Seiden was served with a Formal Written Complaint dated February 4, 2025, containing one charge.

On February 26, 2025, the Administrator of the Commission and Judge Seiden entered into an Agreed Statement of Facts, stipulating to the facts and sanction and waiving further submissions and oral argument.

The Commission accepted the Agreed Statement on March 13, 2025.

The Commission Determination

The Commission filed a determination dated March 28, 2025, in which the 10 participating members concurred, and one (Judge Robert J. Miller) was absent.¹

¹ Akosua Garcia Yeboah’s term as a Commission member ended on March 31, 2025. She was succeeded by Robin Chappelle Golston on April 1, 2025.

Court of Appeals Review

The Commission transmitted its determination to the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, pursuant to Judiciary Law Section 44, subdivision 7. The Commission was notified on April 7, 2025, that Judge Seiden had received the determination. Consequently, the matter is now public.

A judge may either accept the Commission's determination or, within 30 days from receipt, make a written request to the Chief Judge for a review of the determination by the Court of Appeals.

Pursuant to Judiciary Law Section 44, subdivision 7, if Judge Seiden does not request review by the Court of Appeals, the Commission will censure him in accordance with the determination.

If a Commission determination is reviewed by the Court of Appeals, the Court may accept the determined sanction, impose a different sanction including admonition, censure or removal, or impose no sanction.

Statistics Relating to Prior Determinations

Since 1978, the Commission has issued 353 determinations of censure against judges in New York State. The Commission has issued 185 determinations of removal and 288 determinations of admonition.

The Commission has accepted 149 permanent resignation stipulations, in which the judge has agreed to leave office and never seek or accept judicial office in the future, since the procedure was instituted in 2003.

The Court of Appeals has reviewed 102 Commission determinations. The results are available on the Commission's website at "[Appealed Decisions](#)."

Counsel

Judge Seiden represented himself.

The Commission was represented by Deputy Administrator Cathleen S. Cenci, Principal Attorney S. Peter Pedrotty and Senior Investigator Laura Misjak.

Background Information on Judge Seiden

First Took Office:	2008
Current Term Expires:	December 31, 2028*
	*Judge Seiden will reach the mandatory retirement age of 70 in 2028. His current term was set to expire on December 31, 2034.
Year Admitted to the NYS Bar:	1991

Members of the Commission

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

The Public File

The determination and other records are available on the Commission's website: www.cjc.ny.gov.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Member	Appointing Authority	Term End
Joseph W. Belluck, Esq., Chair	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2028
Taa Grays, Esq., Vice Chair	Senate President Pro Tem Andrea Stewart-Cousins	March 31, 2027
Hon. Fernando M. Camacho	Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson	March 31, 2028
Stefano Cambareri, Esq.	Assembly Minority Leader William A. Barclay	March 31, 2029
Brian C. Doyle, Esq.	Senate Minority Leader Robert G. Ort	March 31, 2028
Hon. John A. Falk	Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson	March 31, 2029
Robin Chappelle Golston	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2029
Hon. Robert J. Miller	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2026
Nina M. Moore, Ph.D.	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2027
Marvin Ray Raskin, Esq.	Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie	March 31, 2026
Hon. Anil C. Singh	Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson	March 31, 2026