

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

ALEC H. FRIEDMANN,

STIPULATION

a Justice of the North Elba Town Court,
Essex County.

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator and Counsel to the Commission on Judicial Conduct, and the Honorable Alec H. Friedmann (“Respondent”):

1. Respondent has been a Justice of the North Elba Town Court, Essex County, since January 2019. His current term would expire on December 31, 2026. Respondent is not an attorney.
2. On November 27, 2023, Respondent was served with a Formal Written Complaint dated November 20, 2023, containing charges alleging that he (A) failed to disqualify himself and presided over a criminal case despite being biased against the defense attorney, engaged in unauthorized *ex parte* communications, and dismissed the charges without notice to or consent of the prosecution as required by law, despite having been previously cautioned by the Commission for similar conduct; and (B) demonstrated bias and a hostile demeanor toward a

defense attorney in retaliation for a complaint the attorney had filed with the Commission in 2019.

3. Respondent's Verified Answer to the Formal Written Complaint was due by December 21, 2023. To date, Respondent has not filed an Answer.

4. Respondent tendered his resignation, by letter dated December 26, 2023, a copy of which is appended as Exhibit A. Respondent affirms that he vacated judicial office as of December 31, 2023.

5. Pursuant to Section 47 of the Judiciary Law, the Commission has 120 days from a judge's resignation to complete proceedings and, if it so determines, render and file a determination that the judge should be removed from office.¹

Pursuant to Article VI, section 22(h) of the Constitution, a judge who is removed from office "shall be ineligible to hold other judicial office."

6. Respondent affirms that, having vacated his judicial office, he will neither seek nor accept judicial office at any time in the future.

7. Respondent understands that, should he abrogate the terms of this Stipulation and hold any judicial position at any time, the present proceedings before the Commission will be revived and the matter may proceed to a hearing

¹ Pursuant to Section 47, the 120 days commence from the date the resignation is received by the Chief Administrator of the Courts.

before a referee, or the Commission may summarily determine that he should be removed from office pursuant to 22 NYCRR 7000.6(c).

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

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

Dated:



Honorable Alex H. Friedmann
Respondent

Dated: February 8, 2024



Robert H. Tembeckjian
Administrator & Counsel to the Commission
(**Cathleen S. Cenci** and **Kathleen E. Klein**, Of
Counsel)

TOWN JUSTICES
Hon. DEAN M. DIETRICH
Hon. ALEC FRIEDMANN

COURT HOURS
TUESDAY - 1 pm

JUSTICE COURT OF THE
TOWN OF NORTH ELBA

2693 MAIN STREET (Town Hall)
LAKE PLACID, NEW YORK 12946

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EXHIBIT A

COURT CLERK
JENNIFER M. HAYES

COURT CLERK HOURS
M-F - 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

December 26, 2023

I have had the privilege and honor to serve the Town of North Elba for five years as a Town Justice.

Unfortunately, my current personal situation precludes my ability to continue to do so.

It is with regret that I am resigning from this position with effect from December 31, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alec Friedmann".

Alec Friedmann
Town Justice