



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN
ADMINISTRATOR & COUNSEL

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

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

MARISA E. HARRISON
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact:

*Marisa E. Harrison, Public Information Officer
(518) 453-4600*

New York City Family Court Judge Resigns While Under Investigation for a Prolonged Absence from Work

Clark V. Richardson, a Judge of the New York City Family Court, New York County, has resigned while under investigation for his prolonged absence from court, which turned out to be due to ill health.

In November 2023, the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct apprised Judge Richardson that it was investigating a complaint related to his prolonged absence from the performance of his judicial duties. Judge Richardson then acknowledged that his physical health is such that he is now, and for the foreseeable future will be, unable to perform his judicial duties.

Accordingly, the judge agreed to submit his retirement papers and resign from office effective at the close of business on December 31, 2023. He also agreed never to seek or accept judicial office at any time in the future. The Commission accepted a stipulation to that effect signed by the judge and the Commission's Administrator.¹

¹ The resignation stipulation was signed on December 1, 2023. The Commission issued an order accepting it on December 7, 2023.

Judge Richardson waived the statutory provision of confidentiality applicable to Commission proceedings, to the limited extent that the stipulation and Commission's order accepting it would be public.

Judge Richardson has been a Judge of the New York City Family Court since 1995. His current term would have expired on August 2, 2024.

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

Statement by Commission Administrator

Commission Administrator Robert H. Tembeckjian made the following statement.

“When confronted with the sad realization that ill health is debilitating a judge for a prolonged period of time, the Commission must balance its duty to ensure public confidence in a capable judiciary with compassion for the afflicted judge. Judge Richardson's retirement serves both purposes. We wish him success as he concentrates on his recovery, and happiness in his post-judicial endeavors.”

Statistics Relating to Prior Commission Decisions

The Commission has accepted 131 such permanent resignation stipulations since the procedure was instituted in 2003.

Since 1978, the Commission has also issued 283 determinations of admonition against judges in New York State, 349 determinations of censure and 179 determinations of removal.

The Court of Appeals has reviewed 102 Commission determinations. The Court accepted the Commission's sanctions in 86 cases (77 of which were removals, six were censures and three were admonitions). Of the remaining 16 cases, two sanctions were increased from censure to removal, and 13 were reduced: nine removal determinations were modified to censure, one removal was modified to admonition, two censures were modified to admonition, and one censure was rejected and the charges dismissed. The Court remitted one matter to the Commission for further proceedings.

Counsel

In the proceedings before the Commission Judge Richardson represented himself.

The Commission was represented by Deputy Administrator Mark Levine, Principal Attorney Brenda Correa, Investigator Andy Fenwick and Investigator Annie Hagerty.

Background Information on Judge Richardson

First took office:	1995
Current term expires:	August 2, 2024
Year Admitted to NYS Bar:	1982

Members of the Commission

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

The Public File

The stipulation and order are attached.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Member	Appointing Authority	Term End
Joseph W. Belluck, Esq., Chair	Former Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2024
Taa Grays, Esq., Vice Chair	Senate President Pro Tem Andrea Stewart-Cousins	March 31, 2027
Hon. Fernando M. Camacho	Former Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2024
Brian C. Doyle, Esq.	Senate Minority Leader Robert G. Ort	March 31, 2024
Hon. John A. Falk	Former Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2025
Hon. Robert J. Miller	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2026
Nina M. Moore	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2027
Marvin Ray Raskin, Esq.	Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie	March 31, 2026
Graham B. Seiter, Esq.	Assembly Minority Leader William A. Barclay	March 31, 2025
Hon. Anil C. Singh	Chief Judge Rowan Wilson	March 31, 2026
Akosua Garcia Yeboah	Former Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2025