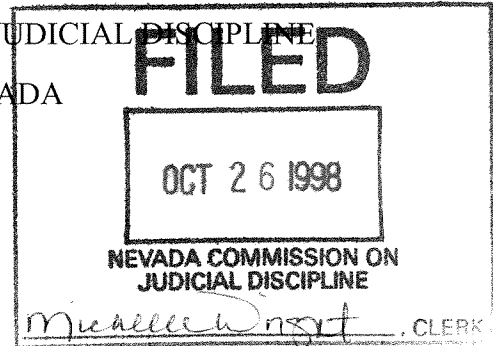


1 BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

2 STATE OF NEVADA



3
4 In the Matter of the)
5 HONORABLE GLORIA S. SANCHEZ,)
6 District Judge, Family Court Division,)
7 City of Las Vegas, County of Clark,)
8 State of Nevada,)
9 Respondent.)

Case No. 9801-217

10 **FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW,**
11 **DECISION AND IMPOSITION OF DISCIPLINE**

12 The above-entitled matter having come on for hearing on October 15, 1998, before the NEVADA
13 COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE (hereinafter referred to as the COMMISSION), Fred D.
14 Gibson, III, Esq. appearing as Special Prosecutor for the State of Nevada Commission on Judicial
15 Discipline, and William B. Terry, Esq. appearing as attorney for the RESPONDENT.

16 After hearing the allegations and proofs of the parties, the arguments of counsel and having
17 considered the evidence introduced by both parties, the RESPONDENT having stipulated that the
18 evidence clearly and convincingly established grounds for disciplinary action for a violation of the
19 provisions of Canon 3B(8) of the Nevada Code of Judicial Conduct, the COMMISSION states that this
20 proceeding was a Formal Hearing pursuant to the Administrative and Procedural Rules applicable to the
21 NEVADA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE for the purpose of determining whether the
22 acts and conduct of the RESPONDENT warrant the imposition of discipline. The COMMISSION
23 makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law which constitute the Decision of the
24 Commission in this matter.

25 **Findings of Fact**

26 The COMMISSION finds that the legal evidence presented by the Special Prosecutor at the
27 Formal Hearing clearly and convincingly established each of the facts hereinafter set forth in Paragraphs
28 1 through 3 of these Findings of Facts:

1 1. RESPONDENT is a District Court Judge for the County of Clark, State of Nevada, Family
2 Division. That while serving in said capacity RESPONDENT failed to dispose of judicial
3 matters promptly and efficiently in the case of Callahan v. Callahan, Case No. D153104, in that
4 matters were orally decided by the RESPONDENT on or about March 4, 1996, March 20, 1996
5 and October 30, 1996 and written orders with respect to each of those matters were not entered
6 until March 12, 1997.

7 2. RESPONDENT is a District Court Judge for the County of Clark, State of Nevada, Family
8 Division. That while serving in said capacity RESPONDENT failed to dispose of judicial
9 matters promptly and efficiently in the case of Johnson v. Johnson, Case No. A143627 in that
10 on or about June 23, 1995, RESPONDENT took the matter under submission and did not render
11 a decision until on or about January 17, 1997.

12 3. RESPONDENT is a District Court Judge for the County of Clark, State of Nevada, Family
13 Division. That while serving in said capacity RESPONDENT failed to dispose of judicial
14 matters promptly and efficiently in the case of Leysath v. Leysath, Case No. D164546 in that on
15 or about August 3, 1995, the presentation of evidence was concluded and counsel were ordered
16 by the RESPONDENT to submit written final arguments. That on or about November 7, 1995,
17 RESPONDENT orally announced her decision in the matter and the Findings of Fact,
18 Conclusions of Law and Decree of Divorce were not entered until June 18, 1997.

19 From the above facts, the COMMISSION concludes:

20 **Conclusions of Law**

- 21 1. That RESPONDENT's conduct as set forth in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the Findings of Fact,
22 violated ARJD 11(3) and:
23 a. Canon 3B(8) which provides, "A judge shall dispose of all judicial matters promptly,
24 efficiently and fairly."

25 **Decision and Imposition of Discipline**

26 At the conclusion of the Probable Cause Hearing on May 28, 1998, the COMMISSION
27 suggested to the RESPONDENT that she attend the course entitled "Decision Making" at the National
28 Judicial College located in Reno, Nevada, pending the setting of a date for the formal hearing. The

1 COMMISSION was able to make the foregoing suggestion at the conclusion of the probable cause
2 hearing since the RESPONDENT had stipulated there was probable cause that a violation of the Canons
3 had occurred. The RESPONDENT has provided the Commission with a Certificate of Completion of
4 the aforementioned course.

5 At the Formal Hearing conducted on October 15, 1998, the RESPONDENT demonstrated to the
6 COMMISSION that through diligent effort she had brought her calendar current. RESPONDENT also
7 provided the COMMISSION with documented evidence of procedures she has instituted to ensure that
8 her decisions would be entered promptly in the future. RESPONDENT also made a sincere public
9 apology for any inconvenience or difficulty her delay in rendering decisions may have caused the
10 litigants in the cases mentioned in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3.

11 The NEVADA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE concludes that the diligent and
12 extraordinary effort RESPONDENT has made to correct the matters complained of and the sincere
13 public apology made at the formal hearing are appropriate discipline for the conduct evidenced in this
14 case. The COMMISSION orders the RESPONDENT to attend the course entitled "Survival Skills for
15 the Domestic Relations Judge" at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, and to provide the
16 COMMISSION with a Certificate of Completion.

17 DATED this 26th day of October, 1998.

18
19 NEVADA COMMISSION ON
20 JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

21 
22 _____
FRANK BRUSA, Chairman

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24 
25 _____
BRENT ADAMS, Commissioner

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27 
28 _____
MICHAEL R. GRIFFIN, Commissioner

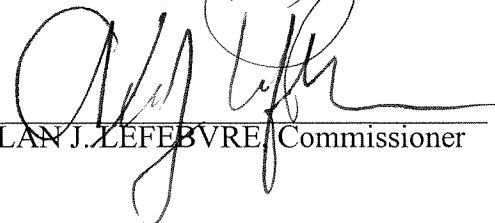
NEVADA COMMISSION ON
JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE



HARLAN ELGES, Vice-Chairman



VALERIE COOKE, Commissioner



ALAN J. LEFEBVRE, Commissioner

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on the 27th day of October, 1998, I placed the FINDINGS OF FACT,
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, DECISION AND IMPOSITION OF DISCIPLINE in the United States

Mail, postage pre-paid, addressed to the undersigned:

William B. Terry, Esq.
530 South Seventh Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
Attorney for Respondent

Fred D. Gibson, III, Esq.
2300 W. Sahara, Suite 740
Las Vegas, NV 89102
Special Presenter


MICHELLE WRIGHT, Commission Clerk