

1 IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

FILED

SEP 30 2020

ELIZABETH A. BROWN  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
BY CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

2  
3 In the Matter of )  
4 THE HONORABLE WILLIAM S. POTTER, )  
5 Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, )  
6 State of Nevada, )  
7 Respondent. )

CASE NO. 81863

8 CERTIFIED COPY OF STIPULATION AND ORDER OF  
9 CONSENT TO PUBLIC ADMONISHMENT

10 Pursuant to Commission Procedural Rule 29, I hereby certify that the document attached hereto  
11 is a true and correct copy of the STIPULATION AND ORDER OF CONSENT TO PUBLIC  
12 ADMONISHMENT filed with the Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline on September 30, 2020.

13 DATED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

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16 NEVADA COMMISSION  
ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE  
17 P.O. Box 48  
Carson City, NV 89702  
18 (775) 687-4017

19  
20 By:   
21 PAUL C. DEYHLE  
General Counsel and Executive Director  
22 Nevada Bar No. 6954

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24  
25 RECEIVED  
26 SEP 30 2020  
27 ELIZABETH A. BROWN  
28 CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
DEPUTY CLERK

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Prosecuting Officer for the Nevada  
Commission on Judicial Discipline



**BEFORE THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE**

IN THE MATTER OF THE HONORABLE  
WILLIAM S. POTTER, Eighth Judicial District  
Court, Department M - Family Court,  
County of Clark, State of Nevada

CASE NO. 2019-182-P

Respondent.

**STIPULATION AND ORDER OF CONSENT TO PUBLIC ADMONISHMENT**

In order to resolve the Formal Statement of Charges filed on August 20, 2020, pending before the Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline (the “Commission”), Respondent and the Commission stipulate to the following pursuant to Commission Procedural Rule 29 (“Rule 29”):

1. Respondent admits that he violated the Nevada Revised Code of Judicial Conduct (the “Code”), including Judicial Canon 1, Rule 1.1 (failing to comply with the law, including the Code); Rule 1.2 (failing to act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary and avoiding impropriety and the appearance of impropriety); Canon 2, Rule 2.3 (refraining from bias, prejudice, and harassment); and Rule 2.8 (failing to maintain decorum and demeanor) or any single rule or any combination of those rules, based on the following occurrences or actions of Respondent while Respondent was a District Court Judge, Eighth Judicial District Court, County of Clark, State of Nevada:

On July 10, 2019, the Respondent walked into the chambers of the Honorable Linda Bell, then Chief Judge of the Eighth Judicial District Court. Judge Bell was not in her chambers at that time. The Respondent left a patch and note on Judge Bell's desk. The patch depicts a man with short dark hair and blue eyes with a ball gag in his mouth. The patch says: "Gag Order, Esquire." The note next to the patch stated: "Thinking of you, Billy." Respondent also gave one of the "Gag Order, Esquire" patches to each of Judge Bell's female co-workers, namely JEA Sylvia Perry, Court Recorder Renee Vincent, and Court Clerk Kimberly Estala. Additionally, Respondent gave another "Gag Order, Esquire" patch to Yasnai Rodriguez who was then a law clerk to Judge Linda Marquis. The depiction on the patch is commonly associated with sexual bondage, domination, fetish and fantasy. Gags also have connotations of punishment, control, humiliation, and helplessness. The female co-workers found the patch to be sexual in nature and inappropriate in the workplace. Judge Bell found the patch and the attached note to be highly inappropriate and offensive. Accordingly, Judge Bell filed a complaint against the Respondent based upon this wrongful conduct.

On or about November 5, 2019, the Eighth Judicial District Court held a meeting regarding guardianship compliance where a number of judges and Court personnel were present. Before Judge Bell arrived at the meeting, Respondent stated to those present at the meeting that Judge Bell had "erotic" or "risqué" coloring books in her chambers. This statement was totally false and was also offensive to Judge Bell.

2. Respondent admits to all the allegations brought against him in paragraph 1 as set forth above.

3. Respondent agrees to waive his right to present his case and contest the allegations in the information set forth above in a formal hearing pursuant to Commission Procedural Rule 18. Respondent also agrees that this Stipulation and Order of Consent to Public Admonishment ("Order") takes effect immediately pursuant to Rule 29. The Commission accepts Respondent's waiver of said right and acknowledges and agrees to the immediate effect of this Order. Respondent further agrees to appear before the Commission in a public proceeding, if required by

the Commission, to discuss this Order in more detail and answer any questions from the Commissioners related to this case.

4. Respondent agrees and acknowledges that this Order will be published on the Commission's website and filed with the Clerk of the Nevada Supreme Court pursuant to Rule 29.

5. Respondent and the Commission hereby stipulate to Respondent's consent to public admonishment. Respondent stipulates to the following substantive provisions:

A. Respondent agrees the evidence available to the Commission would establish by clear and convincing proof that he violated the Code, including Judicial Canon 1, Rule 1.1, Rule 1.2, Canon 2, Rule 2.3, and Rule 2.8.

B. Respondent agrees the discipline of public admonishment is authorized by Article 6, Section 21 of the Nevada Constitution; NRS 1.4653 (1) and (2); NRS 1.4677(1)(a); NRS 1.4694; and Rule 29.

C. Respondent stipulates to a public admonishment for violations of the Judicial Canons and Rules as set forth above in paragraph (1).

6. Respondent understands and agrees that, by accepting the terms of this Order, he waives his right to appeal to the Nevada Supreme Court, pursuant to Rule 3D of the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure.

**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent is publicly admonished pursuant to Rule 29 for violating the Code, including Judicial Canon 1, Rule 1.1, Rule 1.2, Canon 2, Rule 2.3, and Rule 2.8.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Executive Director of the Commission take the necessary steps to file this document in the appropriate records and on the website of the Commission and with the Clerk of the Nevada Supreme Court.

By:   
William S. Potter  
Respondent

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020

By:   
Thomas C. Bradley, Esq.  
Prosecuting Officer for the Commission

Dated this 22 day of Sept., 2020.

**NEVADA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE:**

The Commissioners listed below accept the terms of this Stipulation and Order of Consent to Public Admonishment between the Respondent and the Commission. They further authorize the Chairman, if requested, to sign on behalf of the Commission, as a whole, this document containing the Stipulation and Order of Consent to Public Admonishment.

**Signed by:**   
\_\_\_\_\_

**Dated:**  
September 30, 2020

GARY VAUSE, CHAIRMAN

KARL ARMSTRONG

STEFANIE HUMPHREY

JOHN KRMPOTIC

HON. JEROME POLAHA

HON. THOMAS GREGORY

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that I am an employee of the Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline and that on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020, I served a copy of the **STIPULATION AND ORDER OF CONSENT TO PUBLIC ADMONISHMENT** by email and U.S. Mail, postage paid, addressed to the following:

Hon. William Potter  
Eighth Judicial District Court, Dept. M  
601 N. Pecos  
Las Vegas, NV 89101  
[locolawyer@gmail.com](mailto:locolawyer@gmail.com)  
Respondent

Thomas C. Bradley, Esq.  
Law Office of Thomas C. Bradley  
435 Marsh Avenue  
Reno, NV 89509  
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Prosecuting Officer



\_\_\_\_\_  
Valerie Carter, Commission Clerk