IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

	JUL	18	2024	1
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In the Matter of)		BY
THE HONORABLE MARY PERRY, District Court Judge, Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, State of Nevada,)	CASE NO	89018
Respondent.)		

CERTIFIED COPY OF STIPULATION AND ORDER OF CONSENT TO PUBLIC CENSURE

Pursuant to Commission Procedural Rule 29, I hereby certify that the document attached hereto is a true and correct copy of the STIPULATION AND ORDER OF CONSENT TO PUBLIC CENSURE filed with the Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline on July 18, 2024.

DATED this 18th day of July, 2024.

NEVADA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE P.O. Box 18123 Reno, NV 89511 (775) 687-4017

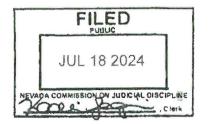
PAUL C. DEYHLE

General Counsel and Executive Director

Nevada Bar No. 6954

FENNEMORE CRAIG, P.C. Richard I. Dreitzer, Esq., NV Bar No. 6626 9275 W. Russell Road, Suite 240 Las Vegas, Nevada 89148 Telephone: (702) 692-8000 Facsimile: (702) 692-8099 Email: rdreitzer@fclaw.com Special Counsel for the Nevada

Commission on Judicial Discipline



BEFORE THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN THE MATTER OF THE HONORABLE MARY PERRY, District Court Judge, Eighth Judicial District Court (Family Division), Clark County, State of Nevada,

Respondent.

Case Nos.: 2022-062-P and 2023-039-P

STIPULATION AND ORDER OF CONSENT TO PUBLIC CENSURE

In order to resolve the above-referenced judicial conduct complaints pending before the Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline (the "Commission"), the Respondent, Honorable Mary Perry, District Court Judge, Eighth Judicial District Court, Family Division, Clark County, State of Nevada ("Respondent" or "Judge Perry"), and the Commission stipulate to the following pursuant to Commission Procedural Rule 29:

- 1. Respondent and the Commission agree that Commission Case Nos. 2022-062-P and 2023-039-P shall be consolidated for purposes of resolution through this Stipulation and Order of Consent to Public Censure ("Stipulation and Order").
- 2. Respondent admits that she violated Canon 1 of the Revised Nevada Code of Judicial Conduct ("Code"), Rule 1.1, requiring the Respondent to comply with the law, including the Code; and Rule 1.2, requiring the Respondent 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 of the Code, Rule 2.2, requiring the Respondent to uphold and apply the law, and perform all duties of judicial office fairly and impartially; Rule 2.3, requiring the Respondent to avoid bias; Rule 2.6(A), requiring the

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Case No. 2022-062-P

below:

A. In this matter, the Respondent presided over a divorce proceeding in Family Court. During an Order to Show Cause hearing on December 22, 2021, after the parties settled the matter, the Respondent placed on the record how she would have ruled against the Complainant in this matter (i.e., one of the litigants ("Litigant One")) had the matter proceeded to trial.

Respondent to accord every person who has a legal interest in a proceeding, or that person's

lawyer, the right to be heard; Rule 2.8(A), requiring the Respondent to maintain order and

decorum in proceedings before the court; Rule 2.8(B), requiring the Respondent to be patient,

dignified, and courteous to litigants, jurors, witnesses, lawyers, court staff, court officials, and

others with whom the Respondent deals in an official capacity; and Rule 2.10, requiring the

Respondent to refrain from making any public statement that might reasonably be expected to

affect the outcome or impair the fairness of a matter pending or impending in any court, or make

any nonpublic statement that might substantially interfere with a fair trial or hearing; and Canon

3 of the Code, Rule 3.5, requiring the Respondent to refrain from intentionally disclosing or

using nonpublic information acquired in a judicial capacity, or either of these rules, in her

capacity as a District Court Judge in and for the Eighth Judicial District Court (Family Division),

in Clark County, State of Nevada, by knowingly or unknowingly engaging in an act, a

combination of acts, or all of the following acts, which occurred during the circumstances stated

B. Respondent made these statements to ensure that when the bankruptcy court subsequently examined the property-related issues in Litigant One's divorce, that court would have an appropriate factual record before it, "in case there is a question regarding the property..." Respondent felt compelled to state her opinions out of concern that Litigant One might attempt to "perpetrate a fraud" on a subsequent bankruptcy court as to property-related issues, and characterized her obligation to do so as a "duty" to prevent a fraud from being perpetrated on her, or any other, court. Despite Respondent's strong convictions on this issue, Respondent did not (and in subsequent discussions, could not) articulate any legal basis for

taking the actions she did.

- C. Respondent's statements placed on the record during that hearing were, in fact, confidential as they were made as to Litigant One arising from a prior divorce proceeding which had already settled and concluded. Respondent's actions led Litigant One to believe that they were the result of a bias by Respondent against him.
- D. During a March 30, 2022 hearing in the same matter, the Respondent spoke in a hostile tone toward Litigant One. A review of the audiovisual recording of these events ("JAVS Recording") reflects that the Respondent appeared visibly agitated and angry at Litigant One during that proceeding. Respondent conceded that she "...probably was not necessarily courteous..." to Litigant One. During this same hearing, the Respondent deprived Litigant One of her right to be heard during that hearing, refused requests to allow testimony or argument on her motion and awarded attorney fees against Litigant One.

Case No. 2023-039-P

- E. In this matter, the Respondent presided over a divorce and child custody proceeding, during which two (2) pertinent hearings were held on February 9, 2022 and August 11, 2022, respectively. What both of these hearings have in common is the Respondent's needlessly disrespectful tone of voice, obvious changes in her mood, the use of profanity, personally demeaning comments about the litigants, and generally, her overall demeanor and lack of professional decorum toward all litigants appearing at those hearings.
- F. In this matter, the Complainant ("Litigant Two") also alleged that the Respondent deprived him and his counsel of the right to be heard, by not permitting oral argument as to the Respondent's decision to set aside Litigant Two's decree of divorce, which was granted by the Senior Judge that had handled the trial of the action.
- G. The February 9, 2022 hearing was held via the "Blue Jeans" video conferencing service. Litigant Two and his counsel were both present via the "Blue Jeans" system.
- H. A complete review of the JAVS Recording of the Respondent's February 9, 2022 calendar, Litigant Two reflects that the following statements from Respondent to

FENNEMORE CRAIG ATTORNEYS 9275 W. RUSSELL ROAD SUITE #240 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89148 702-692-8000 Litigant Two are present:

10:56:37 "Sir! Don't argue with me! I don't know what it is. Do we have a full moon because I can't seem to get people to stop arguing with me today!" When, during the Commission's subsequent investigation, the Respondent was asked if she would describe her demeanor, as depicted in the clip, as being patient, dignified, and courteous? The Respondent admitted that her conduct was improper and answered, "No".

10:58:30 "Sir! No! He doesn't get to pick and choose! We're going to set aside the decree of divorce. We're going to redo this evidentiary hearing."

11:03:00 "Oh God, what is up with these people." ... "Sir! You haven't respected this court for a year! So, I don't want to hear you talking about disrespect!" When, during the Commission's subsequent investigation, the Respondent was asked if she had lost her patience during that interaction, the Respondent admitted that her conduct was improper and stated, "That is possible, yes." Respondent also admitted to raising her voice, though she added "but not significantly...."

- I. The August 11, 2022 hearing was also held via the "Blue Jeans" video conferencing service. Litigant Two and his counsel were both present via the "Blue Jeans" system.
- J. A complete review of the JAVS Recording of the Respondent's August 11, 2022 calendar reflects that the following statements from Respondent to Litigant Two are present:
- 2:28:30 2:31:35 In this video clip, Litigant Two made a comment about not seeing an order related to paying the mortgage. Respondent then shouted, "BS! BS! Because I've got the order right here in this computer." Respondent also slammed her hands on the bench and yelled, "We're not here to argue!" Respondent continued shouting "Stop it!" Respondent also made a comment, "This is not your home! This is my home! You will respect what I am saying...You are not the boss here, do you understand." When during the Commission's subsequent investigation, the Respondent was asked if she was in control of her temper and emotions, the Respondent admitted that her conduct was improper and stated, "Probably not as

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through (J) as set forth above and agrees the evidence available to the Commission would

establish by clear and convincing proof that she violated the Code, including Canon 1, Rules 1.1

Respondent admits to all the allegations brought against her in paragraphs 2(A)

and 1.2; Canon 2, Rules 2.2, 2.3, 2.6(A), 2.8(A) and (B), and 2.10; and Canon 3, Rule 3.5.

- 4. Respondent agrees to waive her right to present her 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 takes effect immediately, pursuant to Commission Procedural Rule 29. The Commission accepts Respondent's waiver of said right and acknowledges and agrees to the immediate effect of this Stipulation and Order.
- 5. Respondent and the Commission hereby stipulate to Respondent's consent to public censure and other forms of discipline imposed in this Stipulation and Order pursuant to Rule 29 and to the following substantive provisions:
- A. Respondent shall receive a thirty (30)-day suspension from office without pay. Imposition of said discipline is suspended for a period of one (1) year commencing with the filing of this Stipulation and Order, while Respondent is placed on probation under the following terms and conditions:
- (i) Respondent shall have no further violations of the Revised Nevada

 Code of Judicial Conduct while on probation. Violations shall be determined by a finding of the

 Commission following an evidentiary hearing or stipulation thereto; and
- (ii) Respondent shall comply with all the terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Order.
- B. Respondent agrees to complete, at Respondent's own expense, a personalized judicial education course/remedial training with the National Judicial College on the topic of judicial ethics and judging within six (6) months of the filing date of this Stipulation and Order. This course/remedial training will be provided by the National Judicial College and specifically customized and tailored to Respondent's misconduct, focusing primarily on: (1) identifying and distinguishing between proper and improper court-related demeanor and behavior; (2) identifying and rectifying areas of bias and prejudice in the courtroom in order to maintain the integrity of the court for all participants; (3) performing judicial duties fairly and impartially; (4) according to every person who has a legal interest in a proceeding, or that

person's lawyer, the right to be heard; (5) competence and preparedness in the performance of judicial duties; and (6) the importance of upholding and complying with the law and the Code. Respondent further agrees that the instructional topics and course delivery format (in-person or online) shall be approved in advance by the Commission's Executive Director.

- 6. Respondent and the Commission hereby further stipulate that, through its investigation of the allegations raised within Commission Case Nos. 2022-062 and 2023-039, the Respondent presented evidence to indicate that her impatience and/or disrespectful statements toward the litigants before her, could have been, in part, the result of (or influenced by) her ingestion of certain medications for health conditions she is facing at the present time. It is agreed that this evidence shall constitute a mitigating factor for purposes of imposition of discipline in this matter and, along with Respondent's actions described above, merit the specific discipline stipulated to herein.
- 7. Respondent and the Commission hereby further stipulate that this Stipulation and Order does not include, resolve or administer discipline for any actions by the Respondent, the facts of which are not referenced herein, but which may be pending before the Commission in some investigative stage at this time, except for Case No. 2023-240, as discussed below.
- 8. In consideration of Respondent entering into this Stipulation and Order, Respondent and the Commission further stipulate that the Commission will not pursue separate public charges, or take any other action, against Respondent in Case No. 2023-240, which is currently pending before the Commission and involves allegations against Respondent for (i) inappropriate judicial demeanor, (ii) being unprepared for a hearing and making incorrect statements of fact, (iii) making comments evincing bias; and (iv) pre-judging an issue and attempting to make findings of bad faith without any evidence.
- 9. Respondent agrees and acknowledges that her behavior and actions in the cases referenced in this Stipulation and Order, as well as in other previous complaints filed against Respondent of which Respondent has been notified and made aware by the Commission (involving similar violations of the Code as set forth in this Stipulation and Order), evidence a concerning and ongoing pattern of judicial misconduct for which corrective action must be taken

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ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent is hereby PUBLICLY CENSURED for violating the Code, including Canon 1, Rules 1.1 and 1.2; Canon 2, Rules 2.2, 2.3, 2.6(A), 2.8(A) and (B), and 2.10; and Canon 3, Rule 3.5.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent be suspended from office without pay for thirty (30) days. Imposition of said discipline is suspended for a period of one (1) year commencing with the filing of this Stipulation and Order, while Respondent is placed on probation under the following terms and conditions: (i) Respondent shall have no further violations of the Revised Nevada Code of Judicial Conduct while on probation. Violations shall be determined by a finding of the Commission following an evidentiary hearing or stipulation thereto; and (ii) Respondent shall comply with all the terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Order. Accordingly, the Commission shall retain jurisdiction over this matter for the required period of time for Respondent to fully comply with this Stipulation and Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent complete, at her own expense, a personalized judicial education course/remedial training with the National Judicial College on the topic of judicial ethics and judging within six (6) months of the filing date of this Stipulation and Order. This course/remedial training will be provided by the National Judicial College and specifically customized and tailored to Respondent's misconduct, focusing primarily on: (1) identifying and distinguishing between proper and improper court-related demeanor and behavior; (2) identifying and rectifying areas of bias and prejudice in the courtroom in order to maintain the integrity of the court for all participants; (3) performing judicial duties fairly and impartially; (4) according to every person who has a legal interest in a proceeding, or that person's lawyer, the right to be heard; (5) competence and preparedness in the performance of judicial duties; and (6) the importance of upholding and complying with the law and the Code. Respondent further agrees that the instructional topics and course delivery format (in-person or online) shall be approved in advance by the Commission's Executive Director.

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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. DATED: July P 3/2024 DATED: July 117.42024 FENNEMORE CRAIG, P.C. RICHARD I. DREITZER, ESQ., #006626 FENNEMORE CRAIG, P.C. 9275 W. Russell Road, Suite 240 Las Vcgas, Novada 89148 (702) 692-8026 Respondent rdreitzer@fennemorelaw.com Special Counsel for the Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline

FENNEMORE CRAIG 12:10 W. RISSELL HOAD BLUE BALL LAS VEDAL HEWADA MINE

NEVADA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

The Commissioners listed below accept the terms of this Stipulation and Order of Consent to Public Censure. 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 Censure. Dated: Signed by: July 18, 2024 GARY VAUSE, CHAIRMAN STEFANIE HUMPHREY, VICE-CHAIR KARL ARMSTRONG PATRICIA HALSTEAD HON. DAVID HARDY JOHN KRMPOTIC HON. THOMAS STOCKARD

1	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>
2	I hereby certify that I am an employee of the Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline and that on
3	18th day of July, 2024, I served a copy of the CERTIFIED COPY OF STIPULATION AND ORDER OF
4	CONSENT TO PUBLIC CENSURE by email and U.S. Mail, addressed to the following:
5	CONSERVE TO FOREIGN CHILD BY CHILD AND C.S. Wall, addressed to the following.
6	KENNETH S. FRIEDMAN
7	LAW OFFICES OF KENNETH S. FRIEDMAN, PLLC 700 S. 9 TH STREET
8	LAS VEGAS, NV 89101 kfriedman@hotmail.com
	Counsel for Respondent
9	RICHARD DREITZER
10	FENNEMORE CRAIG 9275 W. RUSSELL ROAD, SUITE 240
11	LAS VEGAS,NV 89148 rdreitzer@fclaw.com
12	Special Counsel
13	By: Zodiersphieri
14	Kadie Seghieri, Commission Clerk
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