

STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

In the Matter of the Investigation of Complaints
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivisions 1 and 2,
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

CLAUDIA ANDREASSEN,

STIPULATION

a Justice of the Saugerties Town Court,
Ulster County.

THE FOLLOWING IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator and Counsel to the Commission on Judicial Conduct (“Commission”), and the Honorable Claudia Andreassen and her attorney, Deborah A. Scalise, Esq., of Scalise & Hamilton, P.C.

1. Judge Andreassen has been a Justice of the Saugerties Town Court, Ulster County, since May 11, 2012. Her current term expires on December 31, 2024. Judge Andreassen is not an attorney.

2. Judge Andreassen was apprised by the Commission on February 5, 2020, April 2, 2021, December 10, 2021, and May 3, 2022, that it was investigating a total of six complaints against her, including:

A. Her relationship with the Saugerties Police Department was at times adversarial;

- B. She violated various prohibitions on campaign activity by judges;
- C. She was discourteous toward and made disrespectful comments about court staff and courtroom spectators;
- D. She attempted to effectuate certain staffing decisions without involving her co-judge or the town board; and
- E. She failed to maintain professional competence in the law.

3. As of the date of this Stipulation, the Commission's investigations into the foregoing allegations were ongoing, and the Commission had not yet rendered substantive determinations with respect to the complaints.

4. Judge Andreassen has tendered her resignation by letter dated September 2, 2022, a copy of which is annexed as Exhibit 1. Judge Andreassen affirms that she will vacate judicial office on or before September 30, 2022.

5. Judge Andreassen notes that she has been a public servant for more than 36 years, first as a probation officer, more recently as a judge, and that she is eligible for retirement.

6. Judge Andreassen has fully cooperated with the Commission's investigation of these matters.

7. 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.

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.”

8. Judge Andreassen affirms that, upon vacating her judicial office, she will neither seek nor accept judicial office at any time in the future.


9. Judge Andreassen understands that, should she abrogate the terms of this Stipulation and hold any judicial position at any time in the future, the Commission’s investigation of the complaints could be revived, she could be served with a Formal Written Complaint on authorization of the Commission, and the matter could proceed to a hearing before a referee.

10. 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.

11. Judge Andreassen 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:

9/1/22 .



Honorable Claudia Andreassen

Dated:

9/2/22

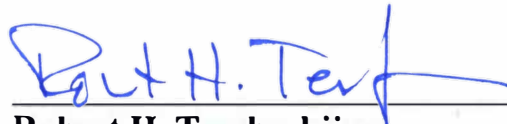


Deborah A. Scalise, Esq.

Scalise & Hamilton, P.C.

Attorney for Hon. Claudia Andreassen

Dated: September 2, 2022



Robert H. Tembeckjian

Administrator & Counsel to the Commission

(**Cathleen S. Cenci** and **Kathleen E. Klein**, Of Counsel)

4 High Street
Saugerties, NY 12477

TOWN OF SAUGERTIES JUSTICE COURT



9-2-22

Honorable David Dellehunt
Court Attorney Referee
Kinderhook Town Court Justice
Third Judicial District Special Counsel
Third District Administrative Office
2500 Pond View, Suite 210
Castleton-On-Hudson, NY. 12033
ddellehu@nycourts.gov

Dear Judge Dellehunt,

I will resign my position as the Town of Saugerties Town Justice, a position I have held since 2012, effective September 30th, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia Andreassen
Town Justice
Town of Saugerties