

**STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

In the Matter of the Proceeding
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4,
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

VERIFIED ANSWER

ROBERT J. PUTORTI,

a Justice of the Whitehall Town Court and
Whitehall Village Court, Washington County,

The Respondent, **ROBERT J. PUTORTI**, by his attorneys, Cerio Law Offices, answers the Formal Written Complaint as follows:

1. To the extent the allegations contained in paragraphs "1", "2" and "3" of the Formal Written Complaint contain conclusions of law, no response is required; otherwise **DENIES** the allegations contained therein.

2. **DENIES** the allegations contained in paragraphs "6", "7", "8" and "10" of the Formal Written Complaint.

3. **ADMITS** the allegations contained in paragraph "4" of the Formal Written Complaint.

4. **ADMITS** the allegations contained in paragraph "5" of the Formal Written Complaint to the extent Respondent, at all times relevant herein, has been licensed in New York State to carry a concealed firearm; otherwise **DENIES**.

5. **ADMITS** the allegations contained in paragraph "9" of the Formal Written Complaint to the extent Respondent was counseled by his supervising judge and signed a Memorandum; the Memorandum speaks for itself; otherwise **DENIES**.

6. The documents referred to in paragraphs "7" and "9" of the Formal Written Complaint speak for themselves, and otherwise **DENIES** the allegations contained therein.

7. **DENIES** any allegation that may be contained in the WHEREFORE clause of the Formal Written Complaint.

8. Any allegation set forth in the Formal Written Complaint not herein specifically admitted, denied or denied knowledge or information, is herein specifically **DENIED**.

AS AND FOR A FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

9. The Respondent did not violate the Constitution of the United States and/or violate any laws of the State of New York and/or violate the Code of Judicial Conduct.


AS AND FOR A SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

10. The conduct alleged in the Formal Written Complaint, if true, was reasonable and justified.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent, **ROBERT J. PUTORTI**, demands judgment dismissing the Formal Written Complaint, together with the costs and disbursements of this action, and for such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

DATED: AUGUST 14, 2020

CERIO LAW OFFICES

By: 
Michael D. Root, Esq.
Attorneys for Respondent Robert J. Putorti
407 South Clinton Street, Fifth Floor
Syracuse, New York 13202

To: NYS Commission on Judicial Conduct
Robert H. Tembeckjian
S. Peter Pedrotty
Corning Tower, Suite 2301
Albany, NY 12223

VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON) ss:

ROBERT J. PUTORTI, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

I am the Respondent in the above action. I have read the above Verified Answer to the Formal Written Complaint and know the contents thereof. The same are true to my own knowledge, except those matters which are stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.


ROBERT J. PUTORTI

Sworn to before me this
14th day of August, 2020.


Notary Public

JESSICA CARTIER
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01CA8374157
Qualified in Washington County
My Commission Expires April 23, 2022