



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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NEWS RELEASE

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Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Resigns After Conviction of Federal Conspiracy Charges

Sylvia G. Ash, a Justice of the Supreme Court, Kings County, who had been found guilty in federal court of felonies relating to her service on the Board of the Municipal Credit Union, has resigned from the bench.

On December 13, 2021, Judge Ash was convicted in federal court on one count each of conspiracy to obstruct justice, obstruction of justice, and making false statements to a federal agent. Sentencing is scheduled for April 20, 2022.

Judge Ash was charged on October 4, 2019. The Commission's investigation of her misconduct was held in abeyance pending resolution of the federal charges. Judge Ash resigned from judicial office on March 15, 2022, and agreed never to seek or accept judicial office in the future. The Commission accepted a stipulation to that effect signed by the judge and the Commission's Administrator and closed its investigation.¹

¹ The Stipulation was signed on March 16, 2022. The Commission accepted it and issued an order closing the matter on March 17, 2022.

Judge Ash waived the statutory provision of confidentiality applicable to Commission proceedings, to the limited extent that the stipulation and Commission's order accepting it and closing the case would be public.

Judge Ash had been a Justice of the Supreme Court, Kings County, since 2011, having previously served as a Judge of the New York City Civil Court from 2006 through 2010. Her current term would have expired on December 31, 2024.

The stipulation and the Commission's order closing the case can be found on the Commission's website: www.cjc.ny.gov.

Statement by Commission Administrator

Commission Administrator Robert H. Tembeckjian made the following statement.

“This is the cautionary tale of a talented and accomplished individual who is paying a steep price for failing to live up to the high standards demanded of those who ascend to the bench. Judge Ash's cooperation now with the Commission, in agreeing to leave office, is realistic and appropriate.”

Statistics Relating to Prior Commission Decisions

The Commission has accepted 114 such stipulations since the procedure was instituted in 2003.

Since 1978, the Commission has issued 280 determinations of admonition against judges in New York State, 342 determinations of censure and 176 determinations of removal.

The Court of Appeals has reviewed 101 Commission determinations. The Court accepted the Commission's sanctions in 85 cases (76 of which were removals, six were censures and three were admonitions). Of the remaining 16 cases, two sanctions were increased from censure to removal, and 13 were reduced: nine removal determinations were modified to censure, one removal was modified to admonition, two censures were modified to admonition, and one censure was rejected and the charges dismissed. The Court remitted one matter to the Commission for further proceedings.

Counsel

In the proceedings before the Commission, Judge Ash was represented by Carrie H. Cohen and Nathan D. Reilly, of Morrison & Foerster, 250 West 55th Street, New York, New York 10019, (212) 468-8049.

The Commission was represented by Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator and Counsel to the Commission and Mark Levine, Deputy Administrator in Charge of the New York City office. Investigator Andrew Fenwick was assigned to the case.

Background Information on Judge Ash

First Took Office (Civil Court):	2006
First Took Office (Supreme Court):	2011
Current Term Expires:	December 31, 2024

Members of the Commission

The Commission members serve four-year terms. A list of members is appended.

The Public File

The stipulation and order are attached. They are also available for inspection during regular business hours at the Commission's three offices:

61 Broadway Suite 1200 New York, New York 10006	Corning Tower, Suite 2301 Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12223	400 Andrews Street Suite 700 Rochester, New York 14604
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MEMBERS OF THE STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Member	Appointing Authority	Term End
Joseph W. Belluck, Esq., Chair	Former Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2024
Taa Grays, Esq., Vice Chair	Senate President Pro Tem Andrea Stewart-Cousins	March 31, 2023
Hon. Fernando M. Camacho	Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2024
Jodie Comgold	Former Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2023
Hon. John A. Falk	Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2025
Hon. Angela M. Mazzarelli	Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2022
Hon. Robert J. Miller	Former Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2022
Marvin Ray Raskin, Esq.	Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie	March 31, 2022
Ronald J. Rosenberg, Esq.	Former Senate Minority Leader John J. Flanagan	March 31, 2024
Graham B. Seiter, Esq.	Assembly Minority Leader William A. Barclay	March 31, 2025
Akosua Garcia Yeboah	Former Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2025