



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission

JUDGE BRADLEY B. CAVEDO, CHAIRMAN
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JUDGE H. LEE CHITWOOD
JAMES P. FISHER, ESQUIRE
H. GAYLAND LYLES
ROBERT H. SIMPSON
JUDGE BRYANT L. SUGG

P.O. Box 367
Richmond, Virginia 23218-0367
(804) 786-6636
Fax: (804) 371-0650

DONALD R. CURRY
Counsel
KATHERINE B. BURNETT
Assistant Counsel
ALEASE BLACK
Executive Assistant

December 2, 2013

REPORT TO THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In accordance with Section 17.1-905 of the Code of Virginia, the Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission makes the following report concerning its activities during the past twelve months:

1. The Commission maintains statistical information on all incoming complaints, telephone calls and correspondence. Complaints and inquiries are separated into categories indicating the source, the nature of the complaint or inquiry, and whether a violation of the Canons of Judicial Conduct was alleged. The statistics are attached and made a part of this report.

2. The Commission's 2013 statistical report also includes the number of times during the year that the Commission issued formal charges against a judge; the number of formal hearings conducted; the number of suspensions; the number of informal meetings with judges to discuss complaints; the number of cases in which Commission findings were reported to the General Assembly; and the number of formal complaints filed in the Supreme Court of Virginia.

3. Commission Counsel provides informal ethics advice to Virginia judges on a daily basis. During the past twelve months, Counsel responded to more than 500 such requests.

4. The Commission's present Counsel, Donald R. Curry, will retire at the end of 2013. The Commission hired a new Assistant Counsel in August 2013, Katherine B. Burnett, who will become Counsel when Mr. Curry retires. In November 2013, the Commission hired Robert Q. Harris, who will start as Assistant Counsel in January 2014.

Report to the Virginia General Assembly
Page 2
December 2, 2013

5. Information concerning the Commission also is available on the Internet on the home page of the Virginia Supreme Court. The Commission's Rules, the Canons of Judicial Conduct and complaint forms are accessible on the website.

6. The Commission presents educational programs concerning judicial ethics. The Commission participated in ethics training sessions for new judges and special justices, and at the mandatory judicial conferences for district court and circuit court judges. The Commission also conducted ethics training for substitute judges at regional sessions in Charlottesville and Richmond.

Respectfully submitted,



Bradley B Cavedo
Chairman

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Enclosure

JUDICIAL INQUIRY AND REVIEW COMMISSION
December 1, 2012 to November 30, 2013

Judges subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission	799
State Corporation Commission Judges	3
Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission	3

Telephone inquiries received		Nature of telephone inquiry	
Attorneys	24	Ruling/decision	204
Judges	518	Ex parte	4
Court employees	5	Bias or prejudice	26
General public	100	Delay	14
Litigants	296	Rude behavior	31
Victims	4	Failure to follow the law	10
Inmates	0	Ethics opinion	525
Media	0	How to file	238
Other	51	Other	190
In Person	11		
TOTAL	1009		1242

Written inquiries received		Nature of written inquiry	
Attorneys	12	Ruling/decision	315
Judges	3	Ex parte	8
Court employees	1	Bias or prejudice	40
General public	11	Delay	16
Litigants	212	Rude behavior	60
Victims	1	Failure to follow the law	15
Inmates	149	Ethics opinion	2
Media	0	How to file	33
Other	43	Other	212
TOTAL	432		701

Files opened upon the complaint of		Commission Dispositions	
Attorney	9	Informal Meetings	2
Litigant	7	Dismissed	30
Judge	0	Suspensions	0
Inmate	0	Formal charges	0
Court Staff	2	Formal hearings	0
Commission	11	Canons breached	1
Victims	0	Findings reported to General Assembly	1
Other	1	Supreme Court complaints	0
		Retired	0
		Resigned	1
		Pending	1
TOTAL	30		

Recusals	
Staff	0
Commission	2