FY19

On 17 July 2018, the Judicial Conduct Commission dismissed a complaint with warning against a District Court Judge as to the Rule 2.8(b) violation of impatient and discourteous behavior. The Judge was impatient and not courteous to a litigant attorney and made comments that did not reflect an appropriate judicial temperament. However, the JCC also found that the misconduct was troubling but relatively minor misbehavior for which no public sanction was warranted.

On September 18, 2018 the Judicial Conduct Commission dismissed a complaint with warning to a District Judge as to the Rule 2.9(A)(1)(3)(C) violations of ex parte communications by the Judge. The Judge was informed of possible jury improprieties, had conversations regarding it with a non-party and never disclosed or made a record of those conversations. Subsequently, the case was settled. However, the JCC also found that the misconduct was troubling but relatively minor misbehavior for which no public sanction was warranted.

On 18 September 2018, the Judicial Conduct Commission dismissed a complaint with warning to a Juvenile Court Judge as to a Rule 1.2 violation of not promoting confidence in the Judiciary. The Judge engaged in personal communications with a party on sexual topics and intimate matters that were highly inappropriate and when made public did not promote, and in fact, undermined public confidence in the judiciary. However, the JCC also found that the misconduct was troubling but relatively minor misbehavior for which no public sanction was warranted.

On September 18, 2018, the Judicial Conduct Commission determined to dismiss a complaint with warning to Justice Court Judge as to the violations of Rules 1.2 and 1.3. The Judge, identifying herself as a judge, contacted a court clerk on behalf of a friend to get information on a case. Subsequently, the Judge, again in her personal capacity, attend a court hearing on this case and identified herself as a judge to the prosecutor. However, the JCC also found that the misconduct was troubling but relatively minor misbehavior for which no public sanction was warranted.

On September 18, 2018, the Judicial Conduct Commission dismissed a complaint with warning to a Justice Court Judge as to violations of Rules 1.1, 1.2. 2.5(A), and UCA §78A-11-108. Court personnel observed the judge not making decisions, falling asleep on the bench, behaving groggily, failing to maintain her government provided email, discussing cases with a retired judge and overusing prescribed medication. The Judge agreed to a mentorship and oversight program. However, the JCC also found that the misconduct was troubling but relatively minor misbehavior for which no public sanction was warranted upon successful program completion.