

## **FY-2024**

On December 19, 2023, the Judicial Conduct Commission ("the Commission") dismissed a complaint against a justice court judge for violation of Rule 2.11(A)(1)(D) for failing to allow a defendant an opportunity to consider and reflect outside the judge's presence, before waiving any potential conflict. The judge noticed that the case before them was from when the judge was a former city attorney. The judge asked if the defendant wanted to assert a conflict and come back another day. The defendant waived any conflict and the judge continued with the hearing. The judge accepted responsibility and explained that the misconduct was not intentional. The Commission found the behavior and misconduct were troubling but relatively minor for which no public sanction was warranted.

On September 18, 2023, the Judicial Conduct Commission ("the Commission") dismissed a complaint against a district court judge for violation of Rule 2.8(B) for failing to control their temper, when they told a defendant "you've made me lose my temper . . . if I have to gag him and put him another room, I will." The judge explained that the defendant had been very difficult and disruptive at almost every hearing and that the judge had warned the defendant over and over. In mitigation, the Commission recognized how difficult the defendant was. The judge took full responsibility for their behavior and was apologetic. The Commission found the behavior and misconduct were troubling but relatively minor for which no public sanction was warranted.