# STATE OF NEW YORK COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

In the Matter of the Investigation of Complaints Pursuant to Section 44, subdivisions 1 and 2, of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

### **BONNIE L. ORDEN,**

### **STIPULATION**

a Justice of the Greenburgh Town Court; Westchester County.

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator and Counsel to the Commission on Judicial Conduct, and the Honorable Bonnie L. Orden and her attorney, Deborah A. Scalise, of Scalise & Hamilton, P.C.:

Bonnie L. Orden was admitted to the practice of law in New York in
1982. She has been a Justice of the Greenburgh Town Court, Westchester
County, since June 28, 2017, first having been appointed and twice elected. Her
current term expires on December 31, 2025.

2. In January 2025, the Commission apprised Judge Orden that it was investigating a complaint alleging that she had developed a medical condition which interfered with her ability to fully perform select judicial duties.

3. The Commission interviewed witnesses, reviewed documents and records regarding the complaint, and reviewed documents submitted by Judge Orden. To date, the Commission's investigation into the foregoing allegations was ongoing, and the Commission has not yet rendered any substantive determinations concerning the complaint.

4. This Stipulation obviates further investigation.

5. Judge Orden has no prior disciplinary history with the Commission and avers she has no disciplinary history as an attorney.

6. Judge Orden previously indicated she would retire at the end of her current term on December 31, 2025, and was not seeking re-election for a term commencing on January 1, 2026.

7. Judge Orden has expedited her voluntary retirement by tendering her letter of resignation, a copy of which is annexed as <u>Exhibit 1</u>, stating that she will vacate judicial office at the close of business on May 31, 2025.

8. Pursuant to Section 47 of the Judiciary Law, the Commission may continue with proceedings against a judge who has resigned and, if it so determines, render and file a determination that the judge should be removed from office. Pursuant to Article VI, section 22(h) of the Constitution, a judge who is removed from office "shall be ineligible to hold other judicial office."

9. Judge Orden affirms that she will vacate her judicial office at the close of business on May 31, 2025, and she will neither seek nor accept judicial office at any time in the future.

10. Judge Orden understands that, should she abrogate the terms of this Stipulation and hold any judicial position at any time in the future, the

Commission's investigation of the complaint would be revived, she could be served with a Formal Written Complaint on authorization of the Commission, and the matter could proceed to a hearing before a referee.

11. Upon execution of this Stipulation by the signatories below, this Stipulation will be presented to the Commission with the joint recommendation that the matter be concluded, by the terms of this Stipulation, without further proceedings.

12. Judge Orden waives confidentiality as provided by Section 45 of the Judiciary Law, to the extent that (A) this Stipulation will become public upon being signed by the signatories below, and (B) the Commission's Decision and Order regarding this Stipulation will become public.

Dated: March 7, 2025

Honorable Bonnie L. Orden

Dated:

Dated: March 7, 2025

**Deborah A. Scalise** Scalise & Hamilton P.C. Attorney for Judge Orden

Robert H. Tembeckjian Administrator & Counsel to the Commission (Mark Levine & Stella Gilliland, Of Counsel)





GREENBURGH TOWN COURT

188 Tarrytown Road - White Plains, NY 10607 (914) 989-1850 • Fax (914) 682-5383 <u>ajacob@greenburghny.com</u>



Annu Jacob, Court Administrator

Shweta Jha, Court Clerk

Honorable Delores Scott Brathwaite Honorable Bonnie L. Orden Honorable Erin McGoev

## PERSONAL AND UNOFFICIAL

March 7, 2025

Hon. Joseph A. Zayas, Chief Administrative Judge

New York State Unified Court System 25 Beaver Street New York, NY 10004

Dear Judge Zayas,

With mixed emotions, I submit my resignation as Justice for the Town of Greenburgh, effective May 31, 2025. Serving in this capacity has been one of the greatest honors of my life, and I have cherished every moment on the bench.

Throughout my tenure, I have been deeply committed to upholding the law with integrity to ensure that justice was served and delivered with fairness, compassion, and an understanding of those before me. I have always strived to approach each case with care and sound judgment, recognizing that justice is most meaningful when considering each individual's unique circumstances. Serving as a judge was truly a humbling experience. I did my best to guarantee that everyone who appeared before me—regardless of background, means, or circumstance—was treated with dignity and given a meaningful opportunity to be heard because justice is not just about statutes and precedent but for the people the legal system serves.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the incredible court staff, past and present, whose dedication and professionalism have been instrumental in the administration of justice. Their support made my work possible, and I am truly grateful for their camaraderie and collegiality. Likewise, I am grateful to my colleagues on the bench and the attorneys who appeared before me for their diligence and commitment to our shared goal of imparting justice. I am also deeply thankful to the citizens of Greenburgh, who entrusted me with this responsibility. It has been a privilege.

Finally, my most profound appreciation goes to my family, whose love and unwavering support sustain me through every challenge and triumph.

As I step away from this extraordinary chapter of my life, I do so with immense gratitude for the privilege of serving and profound respect for those who continue to dedicate themselves to the pursuit of justice.

With sincere appreciation,

Hon. Bonnie L. Orden Greenburgh Town Justice