

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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In the Matter of the Proceeding  
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4,  
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

**RICHARD T. SNYDER,**

**STIPULATION**

a Justice of the Petersburg Town Court,  
Rensselaer County.

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IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator and Counsel to the Commission on Judicial Conduct, and the Honorable Richard T. Snyder (“Respondent”):

1. Respondent has been a Justice of the Petersburg Town Court, Rensselaer County, since January 2014. His current term expires December 31, 2025. Respondent is not an attorney.
2. Respondent was served with a Formal Written Complaint dated November 12, 2024, which is appended as Exhibit A.
3. Respondent enters into this Stipulation in lieu of filing an Answer to the Formal Written Complaint.
4. Respondent has tendered his letter of resignation, a copy of which is annexed as Exhibit B, stating that he will vacate judicial office on December 31, 2024.

5. 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.”

6. Respondent affirms that he will vacate his judicial office at the close of business on December 31, 2024, and he will neither seek nor accept judicial office at any time in the future.


7. Respondent understands that, should he abrogate the terms of this Stipulation and hold any judicial position at any time in the future, the present proceedings before the Commission will be revived and the matter may proceed to a hearing before a referee, or the Commission may summarily determine that he should be removed from office pursuant to 22 NYCRR 7000.6(c).

8. 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.


9. Respondent 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: 12-23-2024

  
**Honorable Richard T. Snyder**  
Respondent

Dated: December 30, 2024

  
**Robert H. Tembeckjian**  
Administrator & Counsel to the Commission  
(Cathleen S. Cenci and Kathleen E. Klein,  
Of Counsel)



# EXHIBIT A

## NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN  
ADMINISTRATOR & COUNSEL

CORNING TOWER, SUITE 2301  
EMPIRE STATE PLAZA  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12223

518-453-4600 518-299-1757  
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CATHLEEN S. CENCI  
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR

S. PETER PEDROTTY  
PRINCIPAL ATTORNEY

KATHLEEN E. KLEIN  
SENIOR ATTORNEY

SHRUTI JOSHI  
STAFF ATTORNEY

### **CONFIDENTIAL**

November 13, 2024

Hon. Richard T. Snyder  
Justice of the Petersburg Town Court  
65 Main Street  
Petersburgh, New York 12138

### ***Re: Matter of Richard T. Snyder***

Dear Judge Snyder:

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct has directed that a Formal Written Complaint be served upon you, pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law. Enclosed are the Notice of Formal Written Complaint and the Formal Written Complaint in this matter. For your reference, the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct and the Commission's Operating Procedures and Rules are available on the Commission's website.<sup>1</sup>

Kindly complete the enclosed form advising the Commission of your home address and return the form by mail to the Clerk of the Commission. This information is requested pursuant to a practice of the Court of Appeals. The information is confidential and will be transmitted by the Clerk of the Commission to the Court of Appeals in the event there is a public disciplinary determination. The remainder of the form contains a "Request and Authorization." Please note that the Request and Authorization must be completed in order for your

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cjc.ny.gov/Legal.Authorities/legal.authorities.htm>

*Hon. Richard T. Snyder*

*November 13, 2024*

*Page 2*

attorney to be notified by the Court of Appeals of any public determination filed with the Court by the Commission.

Papers are being served upon you via certified mail addressed to your court. At your earliest convenience please acknowledge receipt of these papers.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me or Senior Attorney Kathleen Klein.

Very truly yours,



Cathleen S. Cenci  
Deputy Administrator

Enclosures

**CERTIFIED MAIL #9402 8091 0515 6103 4818 23**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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In the Matter of the Proceeding  
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4,  
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

**RICHARD T. SNYDER,**

a Justice of the Petersburg Town Court,  
Rensselaer County.

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**NOTICE OF FORMAL  
WRITTEN COMPLAINT**

NOTICE is hereby given to Respondent, Richard T. Snyder, a Justice of the Petersburg Town Court, Rensselaer County, pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law, that the State Commission on Judicial Conduct has determined that cause exists to serve upon Respondent the annexed Formal Written Complaint; and that, in accordance with said statute, Respondent is requested within twenty (20) days of the service of the annexed Formal Written Complaint upon him to serve the Commission at its Albany office, Corning Tower, Suite 2301, Albany, New York 12223, with his verified Answer to the specific paragraphs of the Complaint.

Dated: November 12, 2024  
Albany, New York

**ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN**  
Administrator and Counsel  
State Commission on Judicial Conduct  
61 Broadway, Suite 1200  
New York, New York 10006  
(646) 386-4800

To: Hon. Richard T. Snyder  
Petersburgh Town Court  
P.O. Box 514  
65 Main Street  
Petersburgh, New York 12138

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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In the Matter of the Proceeding  
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4,  
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

**RICHARD T. SNYDER,**

**FORMAL  
WRITTEN COMPLAINT**

a Justice of the Petersburg Town Court,  
Rensselaer County.

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1. Article VI, Section 22, of the Constitution of the State of New York establishes a Commission on Judicial Conduct (“Commission”), and Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law empowers the Commission to direct that a Formal Written Complaint be drawn and served upon a judge.

2. The Commission has directed that a Formal Written Complaint be drawn and served upon Richard T. Snyder (“Respondent”), a Justice of the Petersburg Town Court, Rensselaer County.

3. The factual allegations set forth in Charge I state acts of judicial misconduct by Respondent in violation of the Rules of the Chief Administrator of the Courts Governing Judicial Conduct (“Rules”).

4. Respondent has been a Justice of the Petersburg Town Court, Rensselaer County, since January 2014. His current term expires December 31, 2025. Respondent is not an attorney.

## **CHARGE I**

5. On or about October 18, 2023, and on July 16, 2024, Respondent made statements that undermined the independence, integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, and otherwise demonstrated his unfitness for judicial office, in that:

- (A) on or about October 18, 2023, in an effort to be excused from Grand Jury duty, Respondent (i) asserted his judicial office when he introduced himself as a town judge to the presiding justice, and (ii) advised the presiding justice that he could not serve as a Grand Juror because he believes anyone who comes before him is guilty and therefore he could not be impartial; and
- (B) on July 16, 2024, while appearing for testimony at the Commission's Albany office, Respondent demonstrated bias by repeatedly stating his belief that all litigants who appear before him "did something wrong," even if they are presumed innocent until they "come to court."

### **Specifications to Charge I**

6. On or about October 18, 2023, having been summoned for jury duty, Respondent appeared at the Rensselaer County Courthouse in Troy, New York.

7. On that same date, Supreme Court Justice Laura M. Jordan presided over a Special Grand Jury Empanelment at the Rensselaer County Courthouse, at



which Respondent was present. Assistant Attorney General Andrew M. McElwee was also present.

8. After the prospective Grand Jurors – including Respondent – were sworn, Justice Jordan announced that those who felt unable to serve could approach the bench and speak with her on the record, to explain their circumstances.

9. Respondent, who was identified as “Juror 15” in the pool of prospective Grand Jurors, requested and was granted permission to approach the bench, where he advised Justice Jordan on the transcribed record, “I’m the Town Judge in Petersburg[h],” and “I don’t think I should be on this jury.” A copy of the transcript is appended as Exhibit 1.

10. When advised by Justice Jordan that judges are not exempt from jury duty, Respondent replied, “I know,” and stated, “I have Court on a lot of those same nights.” Justice Jordan told Respondent that the Assistant Attorney General would conclude the Grand Jury proceedings by 4:30 PM each day. In response, Respondent asserted, “I have to get set up by 5:00 and I live in Petersburg[h].”<sup>1</sup>

11. Respondent then volunteered, “I know everybody come in front of me, I know they are guilty. They would not be in front of me.”

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<sup>1</sup> Typically, the calendar in Respondent’s court is first called at 6:00 PM.

12. Justice Jordan asked Assistant Attorney General McElwee if proceedings would go until 4:30 PM on “most days,” to which he responded by addressing Respondent and stating, “No. If you have a particular night you need to leave early, I can let you out early.” Justice Jordan then requested that Respondent take his seat.

13. Upon returning to his seat, Respondent raised his hand signaling he wished to speak with Justice Jordan again. When called upon, Respondent approached the bench and said, “I just think I cannot do it, because [*sic*] being a Judge and everything.” Justice Jordan asked Respondent, “You don’t think you can be impartial?” Respondent replied, “No. It would not be fair.”

14. Justice Jordan thereafter excused Respondent from serving as a grand juror, to which he stated, “Okay. Sorry about that.”

15. On July 16, 2024, Respondent appeared at the Commission’s Albany office to testify in connection with an investigation into the statements he made during Grand Jury selection. A transcript of his testimony is appended as Exhibit 2.

16. When asked to explain his statements as a prospective Grand Juror – and specifically his statement, “I know everybody come in front of me. I know they are guilty. They would not be in front of me.” – Respondent testified under oath as follows:

- A. “I meant that, reason why people got tickets is because they did something wrong. But I know people’s [*sic*] not guilty. They’re innocent until proven guilty” (Exhibit 2 at 22);
- B. “Well, like speeding, or maybe they broke into somebody’s house or committed a crime. That’s the reason why they got a ticket to appear in court because they did something wrong. But like I said, I know they’re not guilty. They’re innocent till proven guilty, but . . .” (*id.*);
- C. “Or they violated an order of protection or something like that. They did something wrong” (*id.* at 23);
- D. [When asked if a defendant appearing before him on a misdemeanor charge had done something wrong:] “Probably, but not – they’ve got to have proof that they did it, you know” (*id.*);
- E. “I know they’re guilty because they did something wrong. That’s how they got a ticket” (*id.* at 24);
- F. “I meant, that they were guilty because they did something wrong. But they’re not guilty till they come to court. They’re innocent till proven guilty” (*id.* at 25); and
- G. “They did something wrong. That’s why they got a ticket. But they’re not guilty” (*id.* at 33).

17. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article VI, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that Respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary by failing to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety, in that he failed to respect and comply with the law and failed to act in a manner that promotes public confidence

in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules, and lent the prestige of judicial office to advance his own private interest, in violation of Section 100.2(C) of the Rules; failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that he failed to perform judicial duties without bias or prejudice against or in favor of any person, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(4) of the Rules; and failed to so conduct his extra-judicial activities as to minimize the risk of conflict with judicial obligations, in that he failed to conduct his extra-judicial activities so that they do not cast reasonable doubt on his capacity to act impartially as a judge, detract from the dignity of judicial office, or interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties, and are not incompatible with judicial office, in violation of Sections 100.4(A)(1), (2) and (3) of the Rules.

**WHEREFORE**, by reason of the foregoing, the Commission should take whatever further action it deems appropriate in accordance with its powers under the Constitution and the Judiciary Law of the State of New York.

Dated: November 12, 2024  
Albany, New York



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**ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN**  
Administrator and Counsel  
State Commission on Judicial Conduct  
61 Broadway, Suite 1200  
New York, New York 10006  
(646) 386-4800

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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In the Matter of the Proceeding  
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4,  
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

VERIFICATION

**RICHARD T. SNYDER,**

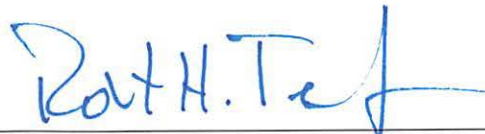
a Justice of the Petersburg Town Court,  
Rensselaer County.

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STATE OF NEW YORK        )  
                                      : ss.:  
COUNTY OF ALBANY        )

ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am the Administrator of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.
2. I have read the foregoing Formal Written Complaint and, upon information and belief, all matters stated therein are true.
3. The basis for said information and belief is the files and records of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.



Robert H. Tembeckjian

Sworn to before me this  
12<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024



Notary Public

Marisa Harrison Santos  
Notary Public, State of New York  
No. 01SA0003835  
Qualified in Albany County  
Commission Expires March 27, 2027

Special Grand Jury Impanelment

Transcript of Proceedings in the captioned  
matter, held in Rensselaer County Supreme  
Court, Rensselaer County Courthouse, Troy,  
New York, on **OCTOBER 18, 2023.**

STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT : COUNTY OF RENSSELAER

**SPECIAL GRAND JURY EMPANELMENT**

*Proceeding:*

**GRAND JURY**

*Presiding:*

**HON. LAURA M. JORDAN**  
Supreme Court Justice

*Court Reporter:*

**ERIC J. TYLER | Senior Court Reporter**

**A P P E A R A N C E S:**

For the People:

AAG ANDREW M. McELWEE, ESQ.:  
Andrew M. McElwee Assistant Attorney  
General, organized crime task force

09:40

Certified Transcript of sections of the Grand  
Jury Proceedings:

(The Grand Jury was then duly sworn  
and responded with a collective yes.)

Juror Fifteen:

THE COURT: Richard Snyder.

GRAND JUROR: I'm the Town Judge in  
Petersburg.

THE COURT: Congratulations.

GRAND JUROR: I don't think I should  
be on this jury.

THE COURT: You know, Judges are not  
exempt any more.

GRAND JUROR: I know.

THE COURT: I had to show up for jury  
duty last year. So, can you -- you know it  
is going to be a presentation from the  
Attorney General's Office. I don't -- you  
know I don't think there will be conflicts.

GRAND JUROR: I have Court on a lot  
of those same nights.

THE COURT: Okay. You will be done

09:40

-- they will be done by 4:30?

AAG McELWEE: Right.

GRAND JUROR: I have to get set up by 5:00 and I live in Petersburg. I know everybody come in front of me, I know they are guilty. They would not be in front of me.

THE COURT: Is it probably going to go to 4:30 most days?

AAG McELWEE: No. If you have a particular night you need to leave early, I can let you out early.

THE COURT: I'm going to have you stay. There's a chance that you won't be in the wheel and won't get chosen. We'll work with your schedule to make sure you get to Petersburg on time for Court and, again, this is assistant attorney general stuff, not district attorney stuff. So, I don't think it is going to create any conflicts for you. So I am just going to ask you to sit and wait.



09:40

Selection as a Grand Juror:

COURT CLERK: Juror number 15,  
Richard Snyder, S N Y D E R.

Juror number 15, Richard Snyder:

COURT CLERK: You have a hand.

THE COURT: Can you come on up, Sir.

GRAND JUROR: I just think I cannot  
do it, because being a Judge and everything.  
I --

THE COURT: You don't think you can  
be impartial?

GRAND JUROR: No. It would not be  
fair.

09:40

THE COURT: All right, I will -- I  
will excuse you. You will potentially get  
called again for another jury duty in the  
future. It might be a petit jury, not a  
grand jury. I don't know if that's,  
depending on the type of case, it's a civil  
case, it may be better.

GRAND JUROR: Okay. Sorry about  
that.

THE COURT: That's okay.

09:40

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25**CERTIFICATION**

I, Eric J. Tyler, an Official Senior Court Reporter for the Unified Court System, Third Judicial District, State of New York, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceeding is a true and accurate transcript of the above-captioned proceedings; stenographically reported by me, to the best of my knowledge, ability and belief; thereafter reduced to print and/or electronic pdf format.



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**ERIC J. TYLER | Senior Court Reporter**

Albany Supreme and County Courts  
16 Eagle Street, Albany, New York 12207

**Dated: December 6, 2023**

09:40

**STATE OF NEW YORK  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

----- X

In the Matter of an Investigation :  
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 3,  
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to :

**RICHARD T. SNYDER,** :

a Justice of the Petersburg Town Court, :  
Rensselaer County.

----- X

Commission Offices  
Corning Tower, Suite 2301  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, New York 12223

July 16, 2024  
11:00 a.m.

B e f o r e:

MEAGAN E. DEAN, ESQ.  
Referee

P r e s e n t:

KATHLEEN E. KLEIN, ESQ.  
Senior Attorney

HON. RICHARD T. SNYDER  
Witness

A l s o P r e s e n t:

RYAN T. FITZPATRICK  
Senior Investigator

SIERRA G. WHITNEY  
Program Assistant and FTR Operator



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 MS. WHITNEY: We are on the record now.

2 MS. DEAN: Do you need water before we  
3 start?

4 JUDGE SNYDER: No.

5 MS. DEAN: Okay.

6 Okay. So good morning, everybody. My name  
7 is Meagan Dean. I have been designated by the  
8 Commission as a Referee to hear the testimony of Judge  
9 Richard Snyder. Today is July 16, 2024, at 11:01 a.m.

10 Okay. Will everyone present please give your  
11 appearances for the record?

12 MS. KLEIN: Kathleen Klein, Senior Counsel  
13 for the Commission.

14 MR. FITZPATRICK: Ryan Fitzpatrick, Senior  
15 Investigator with the Commission.

16 JUDGE SNYDER: Richard T. Snyder, Town  
17 Judge, Petersburg.

18 MS. DEAN: Great.

19 MS. WHITNEY: And Sierra Whitney, FTR  
20 Operator.

21 MS. DEAN: Thank you.

22 These proceedings today are being digitally  
23 recorded. The recording will be transcribed. In order to  
24 facilitate a clear and accurate record, please speak slowly,  
25 clearly, and directly into the microphone. Refrain from

1.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 moving away from the microphone and talking over other  
2 speakers. Please refrain from responding until a question is  
3 completed, and answer each question with words, not a nod  
4 or gesture. Please refrain from creating excessive  
5 background noise, as it becomes amplified on the  
6 recording. Please turn off cell phones and other electronic  
7 equipment.

8 During the course of this proceeding, the Judge  
9 is entitled to be represented by Counsel. It is my  
10 understanding that the Judge has been advised of that right  
11 and has elected to appear without Counsel.

12 Is that correct, Judge?

13 JUDGE SNYDER: Yes.

14 MS. DEAN: Okay. During this proceeding, I  
15 will entertain requests for brief recesses. In the course of  
16 examination by the Commission's Attorney, the Judge may  
17 make objections to the questions posed. However, in  
18 making objections, the Judge should take into account that  
19 this is an investigation and not a trial and that the rules of  
20 evidence do not apply.

21 At the conclusion of questioning by the  
22 Commission's Attorney, the Judge may make any additional  
23 statement that the Judge wishes. This is subject to further  
24 questioning by the Commission Attorney. The Judge may  
25 make initial and closing oral statements today, and within

2.



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1                   seven days of receipt of the transcript, the Judge may  
2                   submit a statement in writing. Any other written materials  
3                   may also be submitted at this appearance or within seven  
4                   days of receipt of the transcript.

5                   Judge, if you could please raise your right hand?

6                   Do you swear or affirm under the penalties of  
7                   perjury that the testimony you're about to give is the truth,  
8                   the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

9                   JUDGE SNYDER: I do.

10                  MS. DEAN: Thank you.

11                  Counsel?

12                  MS. KLEIN: Thank you.

13

14                                 H O N . R I C H A R D T . S N Y D E R

15                   having been duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

16

17                   EXAMINATION

18                   BY MS. KLEIN:

19                  Q. Just as a matter of course, Judge, do you have an opening statement that  
20                   you wish to give today? It's not mandatory, but there's an opportunity if  
21                   you wish to give one.

22                  A. No, I'll just say that I'm not partial. In my court, I treat everybody the  
23                   same, equal, fair, honest. I try to work with people, try to help them out.

24                   And --

25                  Q. Okay.

3.



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 A. -- I take pride in my job. You know, I don't do it for money because we  
2 don't get paid much. We're the lowest paid Judges in Rensselaer County  
3 and probably the State of New York.

4 And just the other day, I had somebody come and thank me for what I did  
5 to her husband. I took care of him, gave him probation, worked with  
6 him, helped him out. And she come to the courtroom and thanked me for  
7 doing it, so. He's on the right track right now. I try to get everybody on  
8 the right track, you know, work with them and help them out.

9 Q. Okay. All right. Thank you, Judge.

10 The Commission has previously written to you about some allegations  
11 that have been made, and this is going to address some of those same  
12 issues because now we are on the record --

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. -- okay? And so this is sworn testimony today. This Office is  
15 investigating complaints alleging that, in seeking to be excused from  
16 grand jury duty, you stated that you cannot be impartial and everyone  
17 who comes before you is guilty, and that you have failed to mechanically  
18 record all proceedings as required by the Administrative Order of the  
19 Chief Administrative Judge.

20 Just to begin, I'd like to show you what has been marked as Commission's  
21 Exhibit 1. This is a letter dated June 28, 2024, from our Deputy  
22 Administrator, Cathleen Cenci. This is the letter that was sent to you.

23 (Commission Exhibit 1 was marked for identification)

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. I just want to confirm --

4.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 A. Yes, I have -- I got that.

2 Q. All right. And you received that letter, Judge?

3 A. Yeah. Yes.

4 Q. And you're present today pursuant to that letter, correct?

5 A. Yep.

6 Q. Did you have an opportunity to review its attachments before -- prior to  
7 appearing today?

8 A. Yes, I read it over, and -- did you receive a copy of that stuff that I replied  
9 back to you?

10 Q. We did, Judge.

11 A. Yes?

12 Q. Thank you.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. At this point, I'm going to ask you some background information before  
15 we get into the allegations, okay, Judge? Would you please state and  
16 spell your name for the -- full name for the record?

17 A. Richard, R-I-C-H-A-R-D, T as in Thomas, and Snyder, S-N-Y-D-E-R.

18 Q. What is your date of birth?

19 A. [REDACTED].

20 Q. Your home address, please?

21 A. [REDACTED].

22 Q. And that's in the Town of Petersburg?

23 A. Yep, yes.

24 Q. ZIP code, please?

25 A. 12138.

5.





*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. Your court address?

2 A. 65 Main Street.

3 Q. And what is your educational background, Judge?

4 A. I graduated from high school. I didn't go to college. And every year I've  
5 been in here, I took my training that was mandatory.

6 Q. Are you referring to your judicial training?

7 A. Yep, yep. I passed every test I took.

8 Q. Do you have any employment or jobs outside your judicial role?

9 A. Yes. I'm a caregiver to my grandkids. I watch him every day. I've done  
10 that since he was a year old. He's nine now. And I get him on the bus in  
11 the morning, take care of him, get him off the bus at night, and I watch  
12 him till the parents get home because both of them work out of town.

13 Q. How many grandchildren do you have?

14 A. I have six altogether.

15 Q. And you care for how many of them?

16 A. I care for one right now. And I have another one next year starting  
17 school. I'll be putting him on the bus, too, and getting him off and  
18 watching him.

19 Q. And you consider this to be employment or something that you do for  
20 family responsibility?

21 A. For family because it's a hardship to my parent -- my daughter and her --  
22 and I --

23 Q. What's your prior employment history?

24 A. I was a QA Tech, and I was a boss for 20 years for --

25 Q. What's a QA Tech, please?

6.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 A. Check parts out, make sure they're all right.

2 Q. What kind of parts?

3 A. Carbon fiber tables. You know, the tables -- you're x-rayed, and you lay  
4 down when you get x-rayed? I did that for 34 years.

5 Q. Who was your employer?

6 A. Vermont Composites.

7 Q. Can you spell that, please?

8 A. Vermont --

9 Q. Oh, Vermont.

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. Vermont Composites.

12 A. Sorry about that. I'm getting hoarse.

13 Q. That's okay. And where was that located?

14 A. Bennington, Vermont.

15 Q. Any other employment?

16 A. I worked in a sawmill for eight years in Berlin, W. J. Cowee's (phonetic).

17 And before that, I worked in a grocery store helping out.

18 Q. Did you retire from --

19 A. Vermont Composites, yeah, yeah.

20 Q. And I appreciate your being helpful by answering the questions, but if  
21 you would just be so kind to let me finish my question before you --

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. -- answer --

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. -- because the record has difficulty picking up when we talk over each

7.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1       other --

2       A. Yeah.

3       Q. -- okay? I'm sorry. So what year did you retire from Vermont  
4       Composites?

5       A. You're going to have to -- I'd be eight years November, so -- and the  
6       reason why I retired is to watch my grandson so my daughter could go  
7       back to work.

8       Q. What year did you become a Judge?

9       A. 2014. I'm in my 11th year now.

10      Q. And you were -- are you elected or appointed?

11      A. Elected.

12      Q. Is your judicial position full- or part-time?

13      A. Part-time.

14      Q. Do you have a co-Judge?

15      A. Yes.

16      Q. Who is that?

17      A. Amy Manchester.

18      Q. Do you have support staff?

19      A. I got a Court Clerk.

20      Q. Who is that?

21      A. Allison Oswald.

22      Q. What is your court schedule?

23      A. Second Tuesday and the fourth Tuesday of each month. And we're there  
24      every Tuesday. And I'm there about every day, going in, checking  
25      messages and emails, and getting mail.

8.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. Okay. When I ask you this question --

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. -- when do you sit? You're saying "we". When do you sit --

4 A. I sit --

5 Q. -- on the bench?

6 A. -- just about every -- second and the fourth Tuesday, I sit just about every  
7 month.

8 Q. What do you mean by "just about"?

9 A. Well, sometimes I don't have a case, but I'm there.

10 Q. Why are you there when you don't have a case?

11 A. Well, we just -- we're there, you know, to help out, support, or whatever,  
12 you know.

13 Q. When you say "we're there", who are you talking about?

14 A. My other co-Judge and my Court Clerk. It's --

15 Q. Do you have --

16 A. -- vice versa --

17 Q. Do you have specific calendar nights assigned to you?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. What are those --

20 A. It's --

21 Q. -- where you're required to be --

22 A. Every other month. So I'm on -- like, she was on this month, and I'm on  
23 September.

24 Q. And when you say "she", you mean Judge Manchester --

25 A. Yes.

*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. -- was on for the month of July?

2 A. Let's see, July -- no, I'm on July, and then she's on August, and I'm on  
3 September. We rotate every other month. But sometimes I have cases  
4 that get adjourned to -- if, like, the ADA comes in or a Public Defender,  
5 he wants to push them out to the next month, so I'm on again that month,  
6 too.

7 Q. But you're scheduled to be there two nights --

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. -- and that's the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, every other  
10 month; is that correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What time does court begin?

13 A. First night is six o'clock, and the next night is 7:00. The fourth Tuesday  
14 is 7:00.

15 Q. All right. And when you say "the first night", you mean the second  
16 Tuesday of the month --

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. -- begins at 6:00 p.m.?

19 A. 6:00.

20 Q. All right. You have to let me finish, Judge --

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. -- all right?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. So the first Tuesday, the court begins at 6:00?

25 A. Yes.

*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. The fourth Tuesday, court begins at 7:00?

2 A. 7:00, yes.

3 Q. All right. We'll discuss a little bit more about the Court's schedule later  
4 on, but what is your judicial salary, Judge?

5 A. 6,000 something a year. I bring home 400 -- a little over 400 each month.  
6 I get paid monthly.

7 Q. When does your current judicial term expire?

8 A. Next year.

9 Q. The end of 2025?

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. All right. Switching gears, Judge, now I'm going to ask you some  
12 questions about what brought you here today. Did you appear on  
13 October 18, 2023, in Rensselaer County Supreme Court for grand jury  
14 empanelment?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And were you administered an oath on that day and sworn in as a  
17 prospective grand juror?

18 A. I don't remember getting sworn in, tell you the truth. But I was -- so, you  
19 know, I went up to the bench, and she asked me why should I not be on  
20 the -- because I said, "I don't think I should be on the court because I'm  
21 Town Judge". And first thing she said, "Well, congratulations [sic]", you  
22 know, like, that to me, you know. Got me so upset. I was so nervous,  
23 you know?

24 Q. Why would you be upset that the Judge congratulated --

25 A. I don't know.

11.



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 Q. -- you?

2 A. Just like, she had a thing out for me or some way, way she acted, you  
3 know?

4 Q. That she had what out for you?

5 A. She had something out for me. I don't know.

6 Q. Are we talking about Supreme Court Justice Laura Jordan?

7 A. I think, yeah. I think that's what her name was.

8 BY MS. KLEIN:

9 Q. Judge, you indicated you had an opportunity to review the letter from the  
10 Deputy Administrator. Did you review the complaint filed with this  
11 office by Supreme Court Justice Laura Jordan?

12 A. Yes. That was a while back when I first got it.

13 Q. Judge, do you have any recollection of a mass swearing-in where you had  
14 to raise your hand?

15 A. I don't remember being -- I don't remember.

16 Q. Do you note that Judge Laura Jordan indicates that you stated under oath  
17 and that you were under oath in her --

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. -- complaint?

20 A. But I don't remember getting sworn in, tell you the truth.

21 Q. Do you dispute that, then?

22 A. Kind of. I don't remember.

23 Q. But Judge, if you're telling me you don't --

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. -- remember --

*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. -- is it possible that it happened?

3 A. It's possible, yes, but.

4 Q. Did you also have an opportunity to review the transcript that was  
5 prepared --

6 A. Yes, I read it. Yes.

7 Q. You have to let me finish --

8 A. Yep.

9 Q. -- Judge.

10 A. Oh, sorry.

11 Q. Thank you -- the transcript that was prepared in connection with the  
12 October 18, 2023, grand jury empanelment; you had that --

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. -- opportunity?

15 A. Yes, I read it over.

16 Q. All right. Do you see on page two of five of the transcript where it says,  
17 "The grand jury was then duly sworn and responded with a collective" --

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. -- "yes"?

20 A. Yeah. Yeah.

21 Q. Does that help with your recollection at all?

22 A. Yeah, it could be, yes. I was kind of so nervous that day, you know?

23 Q. Why were you nervous?

24 A. I don't know. I don't know. I'm nervous right here today coming up here.  
25 I'm a nervous person. You know?

13.





*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. You were nervous because you were appearing in front of a Judge?

2 A. You know, I just got nervous the way she acted to me.

3 Q. All right. So you don't remember being sworn in?

4 A. No, no, I don't.

5 Q. Were you the individual identified in the transcript as Juror 15?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. So you remember that?

8 A. Yes. Well, can I say something?

9 Q. In a moment, please. When your name was called, they said the -- it says  
10 on page two --

11 A. Um-hum.

12 Q. -- line nine, "Richard Snyder." Grand Juror response --

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. -- ten, line ten, "I'm the Town Judge in Petersburg". Is that what -- was  
15 that your response that day?

16 A. Yes, I thought I was -- I didn't think it would be -- that I should be on a  
17 jury being the Town Judge. That's what I told her.

18 Q. And why is that?

19 A. I don't know. Just that a lot of people say -- you know, I talked to them.  
20 They said, "No, they're not going to pick you. You're a Town Judge" and  
21 stuff like that. "They don't want a Town Judge on the jury", you know,  
22 so --

23 I talked to my -- Dave Dellehunt. I don't know if you know him. He was  
24 a -- he was my boss at the Court. And he told me that I should have -- I  
25 should have said that I was caregiver to my grandkids, you know, instead

14.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 of saying that, but --

2 Q. When did you talk to Dave Dellehunt?

3 A. After I got this. I called him and asked him some questions about it.

4 Q. After you got the what?

5 A. This. The first thing. Now, he's retired.

6 Q. What's your relationship with Mr. Dellehunt?

7 A. He's kind of our Counsel for our court. We have any questions, we call  
8 him.

9 Q. So why did you -- why was the first thing that you said was "I'm the  
10 Town Judge in Petersburg"?

11 A. Well, I just figured that she would excuse me. Then, when I said that,  
12 she told me -- she said, "Well, we're probably not going to pick you  
13 anyways, but" -- she says, "Sit down. Go take a seat". And so I went out  
14 and sat down.

15 Q. I'm going to ask you to show me in this transcript where Judge Laura  
16 Jordan told you she probably wasn't going to pick you anyway.

17 A. Well, I didn't see that in there anywhere, but that's what she told me.  
18 Because I looked at that and that wasn't in there, but that's what she told  
19 me.

20 Q. Are you saying that this transcript's not accurate?

21 A. I would say it's accurate, but that's what she told me.

22 Q. Who was present when she told you that?

23 A. There was two girls standing there -- they were right in front of me -- and  
24 some guy on the side of me. I don't know who he was. There was two  
25 people that worked for the Rensselaer County Court were there with

15.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 clipboards.

2 Q. Okay. Did you see anything inappropriate about identifying yourself as a  
3 Judge as soon as you stood up in grand jury?

4 A. No. One thing I noticed was when she told people get in line if they don't  
5 want to be -- don't think they should be -- can't do this court, I noticed a  
6 lot of women went up, and she excused them for some reason.

7 Q. Why were you trying to be excused?

8 A. Because I didn't want -- because it's hardship to me. Like, my daughter  
9 told me, you know, "This is hardship for us if you're going to be on this  
10 jury". It was for six weeks, and we -- I don't have -- she don't have  
11 anybody to watch the kids, you know? Like I said, I've watched the kid  
12 since he was a year old -- he's nine now -- every day. I ain't had a  
13 vacation in 15 years.

14 Q. What was your understanding of the duration of grand jury?

15 A. They told me it was going to be for six weeks.

16 Q. How many days a week?

17 A. Every day as far as I know. That's what he said. Except Fridays, maybe.

18 Q. From what time to what time?

19 A. He didn't really give me a time.

20 Q. Did you ask to be excused from grand jury service because you have a lot  
21 of court on those same nights?

22 A. Yes. And it's, you know, like, 30 minutes to Petersburg. And then I got  
23 to go home, get my -- you know, get dressed up, take my medicine I take,  
24 eat my supper, go up -- let my daughter's dog out.

25 Q. Could you have coordinated with your co-Judge to take the bench on

16.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1        nights that you were held in grand jury?

2        A. We don't usually do that because we each have our own cases, you know.

3        I've only done it once because she was on a -- her nephew got in an  
4        accident, and I took her cases that night. That's the only time we ever  
5        done it.

6        Q. How long does it take to get from Troy to Petersburg Town Court?

7        A. It's roughly 30 minutes.

8        Q. Do you recall the Court saying to you that it's probably going to go to  
9        4:30 most days?

10       A. Um-hum. That'd be cutting it pretty close because I get there around  
11       4:30.

12       Q. Get where around 4:30?

13       A. At court. We don't have a Court Officer. We get there, open up, unlock  
14       the place, get everything set up, get the recorders set up, get the room set  
15       up for the people to come in, and when the people come in, we meet with  
16       them, tell them where to go, sign in.

17       Q. Court doesn't start till 7:00 or 6:00, though, correct?

18       A. 6:00, yes, but we get there around 4:30 or 5:00, roughly around that time.

19       Q. You keep saying "we". Who are you talking about?

20       A. My Court Clerk and my co-Judge. We all get there around the same  
21       time.

22       Q. If they're there, why do you need to be there?

23       A. Because we all got to get there, sign in -- I mean, get people signed in and  
24       everything for court.

25       Q. Did you testify that you're at the courthouse every day?

17.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 A. Just about every day doing paperwork.

2 Q. From when to when are you there every day?

3 A. It varies, you know. I get there usually around 10:00.

4 Q. Whose requirement is that?

5 A. Nobody's, but we just do that. I've been doing it since I've been a Judge.

6 Q. At this point, I'm going to go through this transcript since you've told me  
7 that you --

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. -- believe it's missing things, and I want to know what's accurate --

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. -- from this transcript, okay, in your view. Starting from page two, line  
12 nine, "The Court calls Richard Snyder". Grand Juror, "I'm the Town  
13 Judge in Petersburg." That's accurate? That is what you said?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. The Court, "Congratulations".

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. Now, you've indicated you took issue with how she said  
18 "congratulations"?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And what was your issue?

21 A. I just thought she -- I mean, it's kind of funny the way she said it to me,  
22 like she was out for me already or something, you know?

23 Q. Line 13, Grand Juror, "I don't think I should be on this jury".

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. Is that what you said?

18.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

- 1 A. Yes, because I was -- I said, "Because I'm the Town Judge".
- 2 Q. And that's why you didn't think you should be on the grand jury?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. The Court responds, "You know, Judges are not exempt anymore".
- 5 A. Yeah, I remember that, her saying that.
- 6 Q. Grand Juror, "I know". Is that accurate?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. So did you know that Judges are not exempt from grand jury?
- 9 A. Nobody is now, they said.
- 10 Q. Then why would you get up there --
- 11 A. Yeah.
- 12 Q. -- and announce that you were a Judge?
- 13 A. I know that -- like I said, a lot of people said that they're not going to pick
- 14 you because you're a Judge, and that's why I kind of said that.
- 15 Q. Do you consult with a lot of people when you preside over your cases?
- 16 A. No, no, I don't say nothing.
- 17 Q. Then why would you consult with a lot of --
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 Q. -- people as to whether you had an --
- 20 A. Well, I have a lot of friends who are --
- 21 Q. Let me finish.
- 22 A. Yep, okay.
- 23 Q. Why would you --
- 24 A. Yeah.
- 25 Q. Why would you consult with a lot of people as to why you had --

19.



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1           whether --

2           A. Yeah.

3           Q. -- or not you had an obligation to participate in grand jury empanelment?

4           A. Because I'm friends with a lot of the Sheriffs and Troopers, and one of  
5           them -- like, one of the Sheriffs said, "Oh, they're not going to pick you.  
6           You're a Judge," you know?

7           Q. Do Sheriffs have law degrees?

8           A. I don't know.

9           Q. The Court, "I had to show up for jury duty last year; so can you. You  
10          know, it is going to be a presentation from the Attorney General's Office.  
11          I don't -- you know, I don't think there will be conflicts". Is that your  
12          recollection of what the Judge said at that point?

13          A. Yes.

14          Q. Response: "I have court on a lot of those same nights".

15          A. Yeah.

16          Q. Is that what you said?

17          A. Yes.

18          Q. Now, you've just testified that you were told the grand jury duration was  
19          going to be six weeks --

20          A. Yes.

21          Q. -- correct?

22          A. Yes. I believe that's what they said, six weeks.

23          Q. So given that there are two Tuesday night court sessions a month, what's  
24          the math on how --

25          A. Yeah.

20.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. -- many days -- required court nights were going to be affected by grand  
2 jury?

3 A. There's, like, two court nights, and then we're there every Tuesday night  
4 anyways doing stuff.

5 Q. So two court nights would --

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. -- be affected?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. Did you think that was a valid excuse for asking to be excused from  
10 grand jury?

11 A. No, not really, but my main reason was my grandkids. I have him. Like  
12 I said, it's hardship, and my daughter's --

13 Q. So were you telling the truth when you told the Judge "I have court on a  
14 lot of those same nights"?

15 A. Yes. Just the second and fourth night, and the rest, Tuesday nights, we're  
16 there doing paperwork, getting cases set up for the next court night.

17 Q. If it's only -- if grand jury was only going to affect two court nights --

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. -- that you were required or scheduled to appear, potentially --

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. -- then how is it accurate to say "I have court on a lot of those same  
22 nights"? Is that a lot?

23 A. No.

24 Q. So is this true or not?

25 A. Well, I guess it -- yeah, I'd say yes. I guess I said it wrong.

21.





(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 Q. What do you mean by that?

2 A. I don't know. I was so worked up and nervous, I don't even remember  
3 what I was saying, tell you the truth.

4 Q. Do you understand what a grand jury does?

5 A. Not really. I think they explained that the grand jury is to see if they got  
6 enough proof to find out for trial or --

7 Q. I'm going to go back to the transcript. Line 25, page two, The Court,  
8 "Okay. You will be done -- they will be done by" --

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. -- "4:30?" Response from Assistant Attorney General McElwee -- let me  
11 get the first name -- Andrew McElwee: "Right", indicating, "right, court  
12 would be done by 4:30". Grand Juror response: "I have to get set up by  
13 five o'clock, and I live in Petersburg. I know everybody come in front  
14 of me. I know they are guilty. They would not be in front of me". Was  
15 that your response?

16 A. Yes, but I didn't mean it that way. I meant that, reason why people got  
17 tickets is because they did something wrong. But I know people's not  
18 guilty. They're innocent until proven guilty.

19 Q. The reason why -- did you just say "the reason why people get tickets is  
20 because they did something wrong"?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. Can you explain that?

23 A. Well, like, speeding or maybe they broke into somebody's house or  
24 committed a crime. That's the reason why they got a ticket to appear in  
25 court because they did something wrong. But like I said, I know they're

22.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 not guilty. They're innocent till proven guilty, but.

2 Q. So in your mind, a ticket means that they did something wrong?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Whether it be -- and you're saying that a ticket, whether it's a ticket for  
5 speeding or a ticket for burglary --

6 A. Or they violated their order of protection or something like that. They  
7 did something wrong.

8 Q. That means in your mind that the Defendant before you did something  
9 wrong?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Do you see any issue with that thinking in sitting as Town Justice?

12 A. No. Like I said, they come in front of me, and "Do you plead guilty or  
13 not guilty?" Most of the time -- like, plea deals with the ADA and Public  
14 Defenders where they do the plea deals -- in all my times I been on the  
15 bench, I hadn't ever changed a plea deal from a not guilty to a guilty.

16 Q. I'm going to give you a hypothetical. If someone's standing before you  
17 and they have been charged with burglary in the third degree -- you know  
18 what? Let's make it criminal possession of stolen property in the fourth  
19 degree, a misdemeanor --

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. -- okay, misdemeanor possession of stolen property, have they done  
22 something wrong to get that ticket?

23 A. Probably, but not -- they've got to have proof that they did it, you know.  
24 Rules we work with, the ADA and the Public Defender -- and they tell us,  
25 what -- you know, how the ticket -- you know, how you got to write the

23.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 ticket and -- I mean, the plea deals and all that.

2 Q. Okay. Back to the transcript. What I just read, "I have to get set up by  
3 5:00 p.m., and I live in Petersburg", is that line accurate? Did --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- you say that?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. "I know everybody come in front of me. I know they are guilty". Did  
8 you say that?

9 A. I don't remember saying that, tell you the truth.

10 Q. Are you disputing the accuracy of --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- the transcript?

13 A. That's not how I was going to take it. I know they're guilty because they  
14 did something wrong. That's how they got a ticket.

15 Q. Did you say this or not?

16 A. I don't remember saying that, tell you the truth.

17 Q. Are you disputing the accuracy of the transcript?

18 A. Yes, yes.

19 Q. Are you disputing Judge Laura Jordan's observations of when you came  
20 before her during the empanelment?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Are you aware that there were other people present --

23 A. Yes, there was people staying right in front of me and you know, looking  
24 right at me when I'm trying to talk, and I was a nervous wreck and -- you  
25 know.

24.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. Okay. If you didn't say that, what exactly did you say?

2 A. I don't remember. It was a while back in October. Been so long. Tell  
3 you the truth, I don't remember what I said. I didn't even know that guy  
4 was doing the transcripts they were taking, you know.

5 Q. You didn't know what? I'm sorry.

6 A. I didn't know this guy was taking all that stuff on the recorder.

7 Q. You did not know -- are you saying that you did not know that the matter  
8 was being transcribed?

9 A. Yes, I didn't even know that, tell you the truth.

10 Q. Do you think you -- you seem to remember that you explained having to  
11 get set up by 5:00 p.m. --

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. -- and living in Petersburg, but you don't remember the next line. Did  
14 you say, "I know everybody come in front of me"? Is that part true?

15 A. I don't remember that either, what I said.

16 Q. How about "they would not be in front of me"? "I know they are" --

17 A. No.

18 Q. -- "guilty. They would" --

19 A. No.

20 Q. -- "not be in front of me"?

21 A. That's all --

22 Q. Don't --

23 A. -- I meant, that they were guilty because they did something wrong. But  
24 they're not guilty till they come to court. They're innocent till proven  
25 guilty.

25.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. Do you recall Assistant Attorney General McElwee saying "If you have a  
2 particular night you need to leave early, I can let you out early"?

3 A. Yes, I remember him saying that.

4 Q. The Court then says, "I'm going to have you stay. There's a chance that  
5 you won't be in the wheel and won't get chosen."

6 A. Okay.

7 Q. "We'll work with your schedule to make sure you get to Petersburg on  
8 time for court. And again, this is Assistant Attorney General stuff, not  
9 District Attorney stuff, so I don't think it is going to create any conflicts  
10 for you. So I am just going to ask you to sit and wait". Do you recall the  
11 Judge saying that?

12 A. Yes. That's how I kind of meant she said that "we're probably not going  
13 to pick you anyways".

14 Q. Did she say that though?

15 A. Yes. She said, "We're not going to pick you anyways, but just sit down  
16 and" -- and when I got picked, I went up there, and she asked again, and I  
17 raised my hand, and I went over, and she said, "All right. You're  
18 excused".

19 Q. Judge, show me in the transcript where she says "you're probably not  
20 going to" --

21 A. Well, I didn't see that --

22 Q. -- "get" --

23 A. -- on there before, like I told you, but I remember her saying that, tell you  
24 the truth. Honest to God, I swore I heard [sic] it. That's what she told  
25 me.

26.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. Okay. So you're saying it's not in the transcript?

2 A. No, I didn't see that.

3 Q. I'm on page four of five of the transcript. Court Clerk calls Juror Number  
4 15, Richard Snyder. Court asks you to come up. Grand Juror, "I just  
5 think I cannot do it because being a Judge and everything, I" -- what did  
6 you -- did you say that, first of all?

7 A. Yes. That's when I wanted to say that I got my grandkids that I watch  
8 every day, but I didn't get the chance to say that, because it's a hardship.  
9 My daughter, you know, she works out of town. My son-in-law, he  
10 works driving trucks, Connecticut. And something happens to my  
11 grandkids, I'm responsible, something in school or -- one year that he  
12 broke his leg, and I had to go down to school to get him. My family is  
13 number one priority of me, my grandkids and my kids.

14 Q. If that were the case, then why didn't you tell the Judge that --

15 A. Well, that's what --

16 Q. -- instead of introducing yourself as the Judge from Petersburg?

17 A. That's what Dave Dellehunt told me, that I should have said that, but I  
18 didn't think about that. The reason, I thought maybe, you know, being  
19 the Judge, they wouldn't pick me. That's the reason why I said that.

20 Q. Line 12, The Court, "You don't think you can be impartial?" Grand  
21 Juror, "No". Did you say that?

22 A. I didn't take it that way. I was saying --

23 Q. Ah, ah, ah.

24 A. Yeah, okay.

25 Q. Did you say that?

27.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. "It would not be fair". Did you say that?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. So the transcript is accurate with respect to your --

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. -- answer to the Court's inquiry as to your impartiality; is that right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. The answer in full: "No, it would not be fair." What did you mean by  
9 that?

10 A. Well, I didn't think it would be fair to be on a jury being a Town Judge,  
11 you know. You know, that's how I kind of said it.

12 Q. Why?

13 A. Some of them people the grand jury -- that come in front of me in court  
14 that went -- that were being transferred to grand jury.

15 Q. I'm sorry. I don't understand. What did you say?

16 A. There were some people that came in front of me that got their cases  
17 transferred to grand jury.

18 Q. What people are you talking about?

19 A. I don't remember their -- the people that came in front of me for cases  
20 that did something wrong, and a -- like, a Public Defender or the ADA  
21 transferred to a grand jury.

22 Q. What do you think the Court understood your meaning to be when you  
23 said, "No, it would not be fair"?

24 A. I don't know how they would have -- how they took it, tell you the truth.

25 Q. Do you remember their explaining to you that there should not be a

28.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 conflict -- the Judge explaining to you there should not be a conflict  
2 because these are Attorney General cases and not District Attorney --

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. -- cases?

5 A. I guess so. I don't, you know, remember saying anything like that.

6 Q. Well, the Attorney General doesn't --

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. -- appear in --

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. -- the Town of Petersburg --

11 A. No.

12 Q. -- Court, does it?

13 A. No. Tell you the truth, I don't even know what the grand jury does, tell  
14 you the truth.

15 Q. How long have you been on the bench?

16 A. About 11 years. We don't get -- usually get many cases that get  
17 transferred to County Court, you know. Most of the ones we do are  
18 traffic tickets, evictions, and small claims. I have never had a bench trial  
19 or a trial in court.

20 Q. What is your understanding of the meaning of the word "impartial"?

21 A. Impartial means you've got to be fair and honest and treat everybody  
22 equal, and that's what I do.

23 Q. But you could not be fair and impartial in a grand jury proceeding?

24 A. I would say, yes, I can be impartial in a grand jury.

25 Q. Then why did you tell the Judge you could not?



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 A. That's how I think she took it. I didn't really say impartial. I just said  
2 "it's unfair". She might have come out and said that. I don't remember.

3 Q. You just told me that the transcript was --

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. -- accurate with respect --

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. -- to this exchange.

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. "You don't think you can be impartial?" Grand Juror, "No."

10 A. Yeah. That's how I -- I don't think I really said it right, tell you the truth.

11 Q. Were you just trying to get out of grand jury empanelment?

12 A. Yes, because of my grandkids. My daughter even said to me before I  
13 went that court day -- she says, "Don't they care about your hardship or  
14 your family these days?" You know, costs a lot of money to have kids,  
15 you know -- to babysit and to watch kids, you know? That's why I quit  
16 my job because she wanted to go back to work. They were struggling.  
17 They wanted \$1,000 a month to watch the kid when he was little, so I  
18 started watching him when he was a year old.

19 Q. In your 11 years on the bench, have you ever presided over a trial?

20 A. No, never had a trial. I never had a bench trial. Like I told you, most of  
21 ours is traffic tickets and evictions and small claims and --

22 Q. Have you ever been called for jury duty on another case?

23 A. Yes, I was excused because the person pled -- took a plea deal.

24 Q. When was that?

25 A. Probably eight years ago. That was in front of Debra Young.

*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. Any other times?

2 A. No. I think that's the only time. Debra Young, I know her. She's a good  
3 friend of mine. She's a County Judge.

4 Q. Why are you telling me that?

5 A. Well, I'm just saying that she's a good friend of mine; that's all.

6 Q. She's a County Judge where?

7 A. Rensselaer County. She was there that day that the guy pled -- took a  
8 plea deal, and then she excused us all.

9 Q. All right. Well, let's finish this transcript, and then we'll move on. Page  
10 four of the transcript, line 16, the Court, "All right. I will -- I will excuse  
11 you. You will potentially get called again for another jury duty in the  
12 future. It might be a petit jury, not a grand jury. I don't know if that's --  
13 depending on the type of case. It's a civil case. It may be better". Grand  
14 Juror, "Okay. Sorry about that". Did you say that?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. The Court: "That's okay." End of transcript.

17 A. Yeah. I remember her saying that --

18 Q. So --

19 A. I remember her saying that to me.

20 Q. -- why were you excused from grand jury on October 18, 2023?

21 A. I don't know. She just excused me. I don't know. She just said, "All  
22 right. You're excused". That's what she told me.

23 Q. Do you think it might be because you said you couldn't be impartial?

24 A. Possible. I don't know.

25 Q. Do you see how serious that is?

*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 A. Yeah, yes.

2 Q. Why is it serious?

3 A. That probably, they're saying, "You're not fair and honest to people. You  
4 think everybody should be guilty". Like I said, people are not guilty.  
5 They're innocent till proven guilty.

6 You know, I take pride in my job, you know? Everybody in town likes  
7 me, and I have never lost election in town. Another main thing is, too,  
8 I'm an Assistant Chief in the Fire Department. And during the daytime,  
9 I've been on calls by myself. Two people shows up. I done that for 50  
10 years. I've been a Volunteer Fireman for 50 years. And I took an oath of  
11 office when I became Assistant Chief that I would protect the property  
12 and the people of the Town of Petersburg. For a small town, we don't  
13 have that many members.

14 Q. What do you think that the Commission on Judicial Conduct is going to  
15 think about a Judge who tells -- you know what? I'm going to withdraw  
16 that question.

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. Do you believe that individuals who come before you are guilty?

19 A. No. Like I said, they're innocent till proven guilty.

20 Q. But you think that they did something wrong?

21 A. Yes. That's why they got a ticket.

22 Q. Okay. So you don't see anything incompatible about what you told Judge  
23 Jordan with how you conduct yourself in your court?

24 A. No, no.

25 Q. Was anything you said during grand jury selection a false statement under

32.



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 oath?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Have you presided over any matters in which you presumed a Defendant  
4 was guilty when he or she appeared before you?

5 A. No.

6 Q. But you presume that they did something wrong?

7 A. They did something wrong. That's why they got a ticket. But they're not  
8 guilty. All my times on the bench, I have never changed a plea deal from  
9 a not guilty to a guilty. I said, "I'll find everybody the same". People that  
10 I know come in front of me. It's a small town. There's a lot of people  
11 that I know come in front of me. I treat them the same that somebody I  
12 don't know.

13 I like my job. I like doing it. I'm honest. I never had a problem in my  
14 life.

15 Q. I'm going to stop you there --

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. -- Judge, okay?

18 And why didn't you just tell the Judge that you had family obligations  
19 that would interfere with your ability to serve on the grand jury?

20 A. Like I told you before, I thought maybe me saying I'd be a -- I'm a Town  
21 Judge, they would excuse me. Like I said, Dave Dellehunt told me I  
22 should have said that. She might have excused me for that reason.

23 MS. KLEIN: Can you mark his -- including his  
24 response? Oh.

25 MR. FITZPATRICK: Did you want to mark

33.



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 (unintelligible)? The only difference is the (unintelligible)  
2 aren't on here.

3 MS. KLEIN: Okay.

4 Right now, I'm having the Investigator mark as  
5 exhibits the Commission's inquiry letter to Judge Snyder  
6 dated April 26, '24 -- that's Exhibit 2 -- and the Judge's  
7 inquiry letter response dated May 29, 2024, and that would  
8 be Exhibit 3.

9 (Commission Exhibits 2, 3 were marked for identification)

10 THE WITNESS: Yes, this is what I got. I  
11 bought my copy with me.

12 BY MS. KLEIN:

13 Q. Okay. May I see those, Judge? Thank you. Actually, I'll let you hold on  
14 to 3. I'm going to take 2. I'd ask you to refer to the exhibit and not --

15 A. Yeah, I brought my copy, yeah.

16 Q. I don't want you --

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. I'd --

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. I prefer that --

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. -- you look at the exhibit --

23 A. Okay.

24 Q. -- Judge --

25 A. Yes.

34.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. -- and not the copy you brought with you.

2 A. Okay.

3 Q. Question two of the Commission's inquiry to you asked, "Were you  
4 administered an oath and sworn in" --

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. -- "as prospective juror? Assuming so, what was the oath?"

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. Your response to question two was "Yes, I was part of the grand jury that  
9 was sworn and responded with a collective yes. I was nervous" --

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. -- "and I do not" --

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. -- "recall the exact words of the oath administered" --

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. -- "on October 18, 2023". Is your answer to question two in your letter  
16 accurate, Judge?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So does that mean that you do believe having been administered an oath  
19 and answering with a collective "yes"?

20 A. The only thing I remember is a security guard was there and said  
21 something to me. I don't remember if that was calling an oath or not. I  
22 don't know.

23 Q. Judge, what does this answer mean then --

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. -- if there was no oath? What does your answer --

*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. -- to number two mean?

3 A. I guess I did take an oath, but I don't kind of remember what the words  
4 were that I said here.

5 Q. Do you have memory problems?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Why?

8 A. I don't know. I had problems very long.

9 Q. Do they affect your ability to preside on cases?

10 A. No. I have long term -- my short term's okay. But I don't have any  
11 problems being, you know, on cases in court. I had a problem. I went to  
12 the doctor's years ago, and he -- I can't remember what it was about.

13 MS. KLEIN: Before I continue, may I request  
14 just a five-minute recess? I may be able to shorten some of  
15 what we're doing here today. I just want to check with my  
16 Investigator on one aspect. So just --

17 MS. DEAN: Yep.

18 MS. KLEIN: It's 11:51. Maybe just till noon?

19 MS. DEAN: Yes, absolutely.

20 MS. KLEIN: Okay.

21 MS. DEAN: We'll go off the record, return at  
22 noon.

23 (Recess from 11:51 a.m. until 12:02 p.m.)

24 MS. WHITNEY: Okay. We're back --

25 MS. DEAN: Okay.

(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 MS. WHITNEY: -- on the record now.

2 MS. KLEIN: Thank you.

3 MS. DEAN: Um-hum.

4 BY MS. KLEIN:

5 Q. Judge, in responding to the Commission's inquiry letter, you noted a few  
6 times, "My answers were short and misinterpreted". Do you remember  
7 saying that?

8 A. Is that the screen when I was try --

9 Q. Yes. You were --

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. -- asked about what was said in the grand jury --

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. -- and you said, "My answers were short and misinterpreted". Did you  
14 say -- is that accurate?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What did you mean by that?

17 A. I don't really know. I'm not good at explaining words --

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. -- you know, stuff like that.

20 Q. Who do you think misinterpreted you, though? How did you feel  
21 misinterpreted?

22 A. I would say Mrs. Jordan there kind of took me wrong. Like I said, I feel  
23 like she had it out for me when I got up there, when I told her I was a  
24 Town Judge. I don't know.

25 Q. All right. And you mentioned that you were told grand jury was going to

37.





*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1       meet every day except possibly Friday, you --

2       A. Friday, that's what he said, yes.

3       Q. For six weeks?

4       A. Yep.

5       Q. And you think that was the Assistant Attorney General who told you  
6       that?

7       A. Yes.

8       Q. And when did they tell you that, before or after the part where you got  
9       called?

10      A. When I got -- when I went up there the first time, when she said that she  
11      probably won't pick me anyways, but. Then, he explained to me it's for  
12      six weeks, and there's no way I could have done six weeks.

13      Q. And you also mentioned earlier in your testimony today, Judge, Judge  
14      Debra Young being present. Can you explain to me what you -- I was  
15      unclear as to why --

16      A. That's the first time I went, when I got picked to go for court. That was  
17      for a case on County Court. We were all upstairs sitting there, probably  
18      like 60 people, and she came up and said, "You guys are all excused",  
19      and the guy took a plea deal. "See you in six years". That's what she  
20      said.

21      Q. Okay. So the Defendant pled guilty, and you fulfilled your jury duty that  
22      way?

23      A. Yes.

24      Q. Okay. But you know Judge Debra Young personally?

25      A. Yes, I know her, yes.

*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. And how do you know her?

2 A. She comes to our meetings, our Judge meetings, once in a while.

3 Q. What Judge meetings are those?

4 A. The County. That's our County Judge meetings.

5 Q. Oh, like a Magistrate's --

6 A. Yeah, yeah.

7 Q. -- Association? How often do those meetings happen?

8 A. Right now, we can't attend because they're having them on our court  
9 nights right now.

10 Q. Okay. You also mentioned that -- you testified that you didn't think you  
11 would get selected because people were telling you you won't get picked  
12 because you're a Judge --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- is that --

15 A. Yeah.

16 Q. -- right?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And you mentioned that some Troopers and Sheriffs told you that, right?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. And who were these individuals?

21 A. Just a guy I bowl with, a good friend of mine.

22 Q. And who's that?

23 A. Paul Davendonis. He's a Sheriff.

24 Q. Can you say the last name again?

25 A. Davendonis.

*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. Okay.

2 A. D-A-V-E-N-D -- D-O-I-S [sic], I believe.

3 Q. He's a Rensselaer County Sheriff?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. Who else told you that?

6 A. I don't remember. I know him because I bowl with him and stuff like  
7 that. I know him. He's a good friend of mine.

8 Q. Does he ever appear in cases in --

9 A. No.

10 Q. -- front of you?

11 A. No.

12 Q. All right. And just switching gears, Judge, you testified that you are  
13 impartial when you are on the bench, correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Okay. And you're aware that we have reviewed some of your records  
16 with respect to presiding on cases?

17 A. My recordings?

18 Q. Yes.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. I know he came -- somebody came last Friday, was it? I think.

22 Q. Yes, Senior Investigator Fitzpatrick went to your court --

23 A. Yeah, yeah.

24 Q. -- to obtain recordings because --

25 A. Yeah.

*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1 Q. -- we requested recordings --

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. -- for the last year and only got a few.

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. All right.

6 A. Yeah, we had problems with our recorders and everything and --

7 Q. Who had problems with the recorders?

8 A. Our recorders acted up for some reason. We had to get new ones.

9 Q. When was this?

10 A. Three or four months ago, I would say.

11 Q. And did they -- were you issued new recording devices?

12 A. Yes. We each have our own now. Before, we only had one between the  
13 two Judges, and now we each got our own.

14 Q. Okay. And what is it, a computer?

15 A. Yeah.

16 Q. A --

17 A. Yep.

18 Q. -- laptop?

19 A. Yep.

20 Q. Do you record your proceedings?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And what are your practices? When do you begin recording and when do  
23 you stop?

24 A. Soon as court starts. When the first person comes up, we start recording.

25 Q. All right. And then when do you hit stop?

41.



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 A. Well, if it's in between, like, if there's nobody there, we hit stop, put it on  
2 pause; then when the next person comes in, we start it again.

3 MS. KLEIN: I'm having marked as Exhibit 4 --

4 THE WITNESS: Sorry, I got this --

5 MS. KLEIN: -- stapled document of a court  
6 calendar, Petersburg Town Court, that pertains to the night  
7 of January 10, 2023 --

8 You need a drink of water, Judge?

9 THE WITNESS: No, I'll --

10 MS. KLEIN: Five-page exhibit.

11 (Commission Exhibit 4 was marked for identification)

12 BY MS. KLEIN:

13 Q. I'll let you take a look at that, Judge.

14 A. Well, that's our -- okay. Yes.

15 Q. Does that look like your court calendar?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. All right. And would that have been a night that you presided?

18 A. Yes. My name is up there. It's January. Yes, I'm on in January. That's  
19 my first month for the year.

20 Q. All right. This office requested recordings for that date, and they  
21 appeared to us to be incomplete, but we're trying to understand why.

22 A. Maybe that's when they started acting up, the recorders. I know they  
23 started acting up. We couldn't get on them.

24 Q. May I see that for a moment, and I'll direct your attention?

25 A. Yeah. But I know they're on all the time, so.

42.



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 MS. KLEIN: Where do I see a page in here?

2 MR. FITZPATRICK: At the top right.

3 (Unintelligible).

4 MS. KLEIN: All right.

5 BY MS. KLEIN:

6 Q. Essentially, Judge, we received audio for January 10, 2023, which was  
7 eight minutes long in total and covered only two cases, okay? There's a  
8 lot more than two cases on this --

9 A. Well, maybe a lot --

10 Q. -- calendar, all --

11 A. Maybe a --

12 Q. -- right? If --

13 A. -- lot of them didn't --

14 Q. Let me finish. Let me finish.

15 A. Yep.

16 Q. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11. There's 11 cases on the --

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. -- calendar, and only two recordings were provided.

19 A. It's possible those other people never showed up. Sometimes, we get a  
20 lot of people don't show up to court.

21 Q. Page three consists of a sign-in sheet for that same night --

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. -- January 10 --

24 A. Yep.

25 Q. -- 2023. There are nine signatures on the --

(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 A. Yep.

2 Q. -- sign-in sheet for January 10, 2023. Can you explain that?

3 A. That's not my -- I believe that some people there is not my cases. We  
4 have everybody sign in even if they don't -- they're not there. The people  
5 show up. They come with the people. We have them sign in, too.  
6 Everybody that comes. If they come there with family or -- everybody  
7 signs up.

8 Q. So would you be able to verify for this Office if, out of all the cases listed  
9 on the calendar provided --

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. -- to us by your court, only two individuals appeared for court --

12 A. It's --

13 Q. -- that day?

14 A. It's possible. Like I said, it's a way back. I can go check my records that  
15 I have. Usually, I write on there, on a piece of paper, that they don't show  
16 up.

17 Q. You do write on a --

18 A. Yes, yes.

19 Q. You write on a piece of paper that the party didn't show up; is --

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. Do you make a record of that?

22 A. I write it on my paper that -- she gives me a copy of that, and I write on  
23 there -- I get a separate piece of paper she makes out, my Court Clerk,  
24 and I write "no-show", whatever. But I know all the time, the recorders  
25 are on, so.

44.



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 Q. You keep saying "all the time". Would you say that's a generalization?

2 A. Well, when we have court. Yes, when there's people in there coming in  
3 front of me, they're on, all the time.

4 Q. Do you hit record, and then the case is called?

5 A. I will say, when we have court, we hit the recorder to record, and  
6 everybody comes up. It's on all the time.

7 Q. Who's responsible for operating it, you or the Clerk?

8 A. Me.

9 Q. Okay.

10 BY MS. KLEIN:

11 Q. Before we conclude, Judge, at least conclude our questioning, we'd like to  
12 ask you to provide the dates that you presided in court for the year of  
13 2023 --

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. -- when you leave here. Can you forward that to this Office?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. We want to know what dates you were on the bench and heard cases.

18 A. Yep.

19 Q. Okay?

20 A. I believe I have all those records. We keep all those records and  
21 everything.

22 Q. Okay. All right.

23 A. What do you do? Send it to you guys?

24 Q. Yes.

25 A. Okay.



(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)

1 MS. KLEIN: That concludes my questioning --

2 MS. DEAN: Okay.

3 MS. KLEIN: -- for today.

4 MS. DEAN: Thank you, Judge. Do you have  
5 anything that you need to add in a closing statement at --

6 THE WITNESS: Not --

7 MS. DEAN: -- this point?

8 THE WITNESS: Just a closing -- I'd like to say  
9 that I take pride in my job, you know. I'm there. I'm  
10 dedicated. I have never missed a night of court except one  
11 time when I had COVID.

12 And this would be a hardship to me if I lost this  
13 position because this is what I live by. I'm single. I have  
14 lots of bills. I own my own house. I -- tons of bills I got to  
15 pay. I end up putting \$20,000 in this house to -- I had to  
16 take a loan out. And I would have came today with an  
17 Attorney, but I wouldn't be able to afford one because he'd  
18 probably charge me more than what I get a year. But this  
19 money I make, this is my spending money. I spend it on  
20 my grandkids and you know, buy groceries and everything,  
21 so it'd be a hardship to me if I lost this position.

22 And like I said, I got one more year left on this  
23 term, and I'm going to be almost 70. And I've got to think  
24 about if I'm going to run again because, you know, I'm  
25 going to have both my grandkids now, next year, watching

46.



*(Hon. Richard T. Snyder)*

1                                   them, so. So it's --

2                                   MS. DEAN: Okay.

3                                   THE WITNESS: -- going to be a hardship for  
4                                   me if I lost this.

5                                   MS. DEAN: Okay. Thank you, Judge.

6                                   Nothing further --

7                                   MS. KLEIN: Thank you.

8                                   MS. DEAN: -- from the Commission? Then --

9                                   MS. KLEIN: No, we have nothing further.

10                                  MS. DEAN: -- we will go --

11                                  MS. KLEIN: Thank you.

12                                  MS. DEAN: -- off the record at 12:15. Thank  
13                                  you.

14                                  THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.

15                                  MS. KLEIN: Thank you. All right.

16                                  THE WITNESS: We're all set?

17                                  MS. KLEIN: We're all set, Judge.

18                                  (Proceedings concluded at 12:15 p.m.)

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COMMISSION EXHIBITS

	Description	Ident.
1	Letter from Cathleen Cenci to Judge Snyder dated June 28, 2024, with attachments (12 pages).	4
2	Letter from Cathleen Cenci to Judge Snyder dated April 26, 2024, with attachments (16 pages).	34
3	Email response from Judge Snyder with attached reply letter dated May 17, 2024 (4 pages).	34
4	Petersburgh Town Court calendars and sign-in sheets for January 10 and September 26, 2023 (5 pages).	42

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CERTIFICATION

I, Marcy Amell, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the audio recording described herein to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated: July 23, 2024



---

Marcy Amell

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

---

In the Matter of the Proceeding  
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4,  
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

**RICHARD T. SNYDER,**

a Justice of the Petersburg Town Court,  
Rensselaer County.

---

**Judge's Home Address**

In the event that a determination of the Commission on Judicial Conduct is made in the above matter requiring transmittal to the Chief Judge and service upon the judge in accordance with Judiciary Law § 44, subd. 7, the Court of Appeals has asked the Commission to provide the judge's home address.

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Judge's Home Address

**Request and Authorization to Notify Judge's Attorney of Determination**

In the event that a determination of the Commission on Judicial Conduct is made in the above matter requiring transmittal to the Chief Judge and service upon me in accordance with Judiciary Law § 44, subd. 7, the undersigned judge or justice:

(1) requests and authorizes the Chief Judge to cause a copy of my notification letter and a copy of the determination to be sent to my attorney(s) by mail:

---

Attorney's Name, Address, Telephone

(2) requests and authorizes the Clerk of the Commission to transmit this request to the Chief Judge together with the other required papers.

This request and authorization shall remain in force unless and until a revocation in writing by the undersigned judge or justice is received by the Commission.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Judge or Justice

Acknowledgment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Attorney for Judge or Justice

**SEND TO:** Clerk of the Commission  
State Commission on Judicial Conduct  
61 Broadway, Suite 1200  
New York, New York 10006

**From:** [no-reply@pb.com](mailto:no-reply@pb.com)  
**To:** [Letitia Walsh](#)  
**Subject:** Shipment Delivered  
**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:41:25 AM

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[View details below.](#)

[view as webpage](#)



## Your package has been delivered



Your package from State of New York has been delivered. Please see details below.

### Shipment delivery details

Tracking number:	9402809105156103481823
Carrier:	usps
Service:	Priority Mail®
Delivery date:	2024-11-16
Delivery address:	[REDACTED]
Shipped on:	2024-11-13

[Learn more](#) about sending solutions available from Pitney Bowes



[pitneybowes.com/us](https://pitneybowes.com/us) [Contact us](#)



November 18, 2024

Dear Letitia Walsh:

The following is in response to your request for proof of delivery on your item with the tracking number:  
**9402 8091 0515 6103 4818 23.**

#### Item Details

<b>Status:</b>	Delivered, Front Desk/Reception/Mail Room
<b>Status Date / Time:</b>	November 16, 2024, 9:30 am
<b>Location:</b>	PETERSBURG, NY 12138
<b>Postal Product:</b>	Priority Mail®
<b>Extra Services:</b>	Certified Mail™ Return Receipt Electronic Up to \$100 insurance included
<b>Recipient Name:</b>	Hon Richard T Snyder

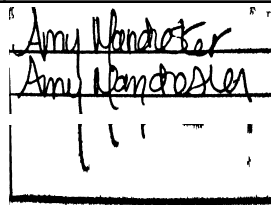
#### Shipment Details

<b>Weight:</b>	15.0oz
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#### Recipient Signature

Signature of Recipient:

Address of Recipient:



Amy Handwerker  
Amy Handwerker  
11111

Note: Scanned image may reflect a different destination address due to Intended Recipient's delivery instructions on file.

Thank you for selecting the United States Postal Service® for your mailing needs. If you require additional assistance, please contact your local Post Office™ or a Postal representative at 1-800-222-1811.

Sincerely,  
United States Postal Service®  
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW  
Washington, D.C. 20260-0004

# EXHIBIT B

Hon. Richard T. Snyder  
Justice of the Petersburg Town Court  
P.O. Box 342  
[REDACTED]

December 17, 2024

Hon. Joseph Zayas  
Chief Administrative Judge  
New York State Unified Court System  
Office of Court Administration  
25 Beaver Street  
New York, NY 10004

Dear Chief Administrative Judge Zayas:

I have decided to retire from the bench, and as required by law, hereby give notice of my resignation from judicial office, effective close of business, December 31, 2024.

Very Truly yours,



Hon. Richard T. Snyder  
Justice of the Petersburg Town Court

CC: Heinz Noeding  
Petersburgh Town Supervisor



Hon. Richard T. Snyder  
Justice of the Petersburg Town Court  
P.O. Box 342  
[REDACTED]

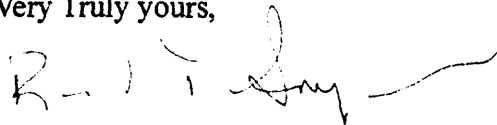
December 17, 2024

Heinz Noeding  
Petersburgh Town Supervisor  
P.O. Box 130  
Petersburgh, NY 12138

Dear Heinz:

For personal reasons I have decided to retire from the bench, effective close of business, December 31, 2024.

Very Truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. T. Snyder", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Hon. Richard T. Snyder  
Justice of the Petersburg Town Court