

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

JEFFREY M. ZIMMERMAN,

STIPULATION

a Judge of the New York City Criminal Court,
and an Acting Justice of the Supreme Court,
Bronx 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 Jeffrey M. Zimmerman ("Respondent") and his attorney Deborah A. Scalise of Scalise & Hamilton P.C.:

1. Respondent was admitted to the practice of law in New York in 1985. He was an interim Judge of the New York City Civil Court from 2018 to 2019, has been a Judge of the New York City Criminal Court, Bronx County, since 2019, and has been an Acting Justice of the Supreme Court, Bronx County, since 2023. Respondent's term expires on December 31, 2028.

2. Respondent was served with a Formal Written Complaint dated January 6, 2025, alleging as follows:

- A. During a criminal court arraignment, Respondent interfered in the attorney-client relationship between a defendant and his attorney, repeatedly disparaged the defendant's attorney, and appeared to prejudge the defendant's guilt;

- B. Following a criminal court trial over which he presided, Respondent spoke to the jury in private about the case it had just heard, and conveyed information to the jury that could be interpreted as implicitly criticizing its verdict;
- C. While presiding over a criminal case, Respondent disparaged a fellow judge who authored an opinion with which he disagreed; and
- D. On the occasions cited above and on one other occasion, Respondent failed to be patient, dignified, and courteous to attorneys appearing before him.

3. Respondent has fully cooperated with the Commission's investigation and apologized for his conduct. Respondent has no prior disciplinary history with the Commission and avers that he has no disciplinary history as an attorney.

4. Respondent enters into this Stipulation in lieu of filing an Answer to the Formal Written Complaint.

5. Respondent has tendered his letter of resignation, a copy of which is annexed as Exhibit A, stating that he will resign from his judicial office effective April 3, 2025.

6. 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."


7. Respondent affirms that he will vacate his judicial office at the close of business on April 2, 2025, he will neither seek nor accept judicial office at any time in the future.

8. 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).

9. 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.

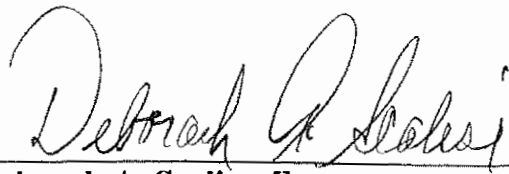
10. Respondent waives confidentiality as provided by Section 45 of the Judiciary Law, to the extent that (A) this Stipulation will become public upon being signed by the signatories below, and (B) the Commission's Decision and Order regarding this Stipulation will become public.

Dated: 2/20/25


Honorable Jeffrey M. Zimmerman
Respondent

Dated:

2/21/25



Deborah A. Scalise, Esq.
Scalise & Hamilton P.C.
Attorney for Respondent

Dated: February 21, 2025



Robert H. Tembeckjian
Administrator & Counsel to the Commission
(Mark Levine, Jennifer L. Lowry, Of Counsel)

EXHIBIT A

Hon. Jeffrey M. Zimmerman
Bronx Hall of Justice
265 East 161st Street
Bronx, NY 10451

February 19th, 2025

Via Electronic Mail

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

Re: Resignation

Dear Judge Zayas:

Please be advised that I will resign my position as an appointed Judge of the New York City Criminal Court effective April 3, 2025. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in this position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jeffrey M. Zimmerman

cc: Hon. Adam Silvera
Hon. Alvin Yearwood
Hon. Shahabuddeen Ally