



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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NEWS RELEASE

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Town Justice in Hamilton County Resigns While Under Investigation

Mitchell H. Edelstein, a Justice of the Long Lake Town Court, Hamilton County, has resigned while under investigation by the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct for delays in depositing funds and deciding cases, and conflicts in two traffic matters.

In February 2025, the Commission apprised Judge Edelstein that it was investigating a complaint alleging:

- Delays in depositing court-collected funds and in the disposition of certain cases; and
- Failure to disqualify from two traffic cases involving immediate family of professional acquaintances.

Judge Edelstein agreed to leave office on June 13, 2025, and never to seek or accept judicial office at any time in the future. The Commission accepted a stipulation to that effect signed by the judge and the Commission's Administrator.¹

¹ The Stipulation was signed on June 5, 2025. The Commission issued an order accepting it on June 12, 2025.

Judge Edelstein waived the statutory provision of confidentiality applicable to Commission proceedings, to the limited extent that the stipulation and Commission's order accepting it would be public.

Judge Edelstein, who is not an attorney, has been a Justice of Long Lake Town Court since 2012. His current term would have expired on December 31, 2027.

The stipulation and the Commission's order can be found on the Commission's website: www.cjc.ny.gov.

Statistics Relating to Prior Commission Decisions

The Commission has accepted 153 such permanent resignation stipulations since the procedure was instituted in 2003.

Since 1978, the Commission has also issued 289 determinations of admonition against judges in New York State, 356 determinations of censure and 185 determinations of removal.

The Court of Appeals has reviewed 102 Commission determinations. The results are available on the Commission's website at "[Appealed Decisions](#)."

Statement by Commission Administrator

"All judges are required to dispose of court business fairly and efficiently. Where there is a conflict, they must either disqualify themselves or disclose it to the parties, depending on the circumstances. Town and village justices have an additional obligation to deposit court-collected funds promptly. Judge Edelstein's resignation is an appropriate end to the Commission's inquiry into such complaints against him."

Counsel

Judge Edelstein represented himself.

The Commission was represented by Deputy Administrator Cathleen S. Cenci, Principal Attorney S. Peter Pedrotty and Principal Investigator Ryan Fitzpatrick.

Background Information on Judge Edelstein

First took office:	January 1, 2012
Current term expires:	December 31, 2027

Members of the Commission

The Commission members serve four-year terms. A list of members is noted below.

The Public File

The stipulation and order are attached.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Member	Appointing Authority	Term End
Joseph W. Belluck, Esq., Chair	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2028
Taa Grays, Esq., Vice Chair	Senate President Pro Tem Andrea Stewart-Cousins	March 31, 2027
Hon. Fernando M. Camacho	Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson	March 31, 2028
Stefano Cambareri, Esq.	Assembly Minority Leader William A. Barclay	March 31, 2029
Brian C. Doyle, Esq.	Senate Minority Leader Robert G. Ort	March 31, 2028
Hon. John A. Falk	Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson	March 31, 2029
Robin Chappelle Golston	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2029
Hon. Robert J. Miller	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2026
Nina M. Moore, Ph.D.	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2027
Hon. Peter H. Moulton	Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson	March 31, 2026
Marvin Ray Raskin, Esq.	Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie	March 31, 2026