

NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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NEWS RELEASE

June 9, 2025

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City Court Judge in Nassau County Should Be Censured for Invoking His Judicial Office for Personal Purposes

The New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct has determined that Corey E. Klein, a Judge of the Long Beach City Court (Nassau County), should be censured for invoking his judicial office in a personal matter involving his son, and in a traffic matter for the benefit of an acquaintance.

Judge Klein agreed to the censure.

School Board Incident

In April 2024, during a public meeting of his local school board, Judge Klein engaged in a heated discussion with board members over a decision not to name his son a valedictorian at his school. At times, he interrupted, shouted over them, and said he was a judge and should be referred to as such.

Parking Ticket

In October 2022, Judge Klein received a text message from a professional acquaintance that her car was about to get "booted" by the police because she had unpaid parking tickets. Within minutes, the judge called various

MARISA E. HARRISON PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER individuals at the police department, asking them to "stop the boot," and advising that the unpaid tickets would be "taken care of." The local police sergeant believed Judge Klein was acting in his judicial capacity when he said not to boot the vehicle. Ultimately, the boot was removed, and the judge's acquaintance paid the tickets.

In accepting the jointly recommended sanction of censure, the Commission stated that the judge "acknowledged that his conduct was improper and warrants public discipline."

Statement by Commission Administrator

Commission Administrator Robert H. Tembeckjian made the following statement.

"It corrodes public confidence in the judiciary when a judge lends the prestige of judicial office to advance a private benefit. Doing so impulsively, in an unseemly public argument over who should be a high school's honoree, or as a favor to a parking ticket scofflaw, is especially irresponsible."

The Commission Proceedings

Judge Klein was served with a Formal Written Complaint dated February 20, 2025, containing two charges.

On April 24, 2025, the Administrator of the Commission, Judge Klein and his attorney entered into an Agreed Statement of Facts, stipulating to the facts and sanction and waiving further submissions and oral argument.

The Commission accepted the Agreed Statement on May 1, 2025.

The Commission Determination

The Commission filed a determination dated May 29, 2025, in which all 11 members concurred.

Court of Appeals Review

The Commission transmitted its determination to the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, pursuant to Judiciary Law Section 44, subdivision 7. The Commission was notified on June 6, 2025, that Judge Klein had received the determination. Consequently, the matter is now public.

A judge may either accept the Commission's determination or, within 30 days from receipt, make a written request to the Chief Judge for a review of the determination by the Court of Appeals.

Pursuant to Judiciary Law Section 44, subdivision 7, if Judge Klein does not request review by the Court of Appeals, the Commission will censure him in accordance with the determination.

If a Commission determination is reviewed by the Court of Appeals, the Court may accept the determined sanction, impose a different sanction including admonition, censure or removal, or impose no sanction.

Statistics Relating to Prior Determinations

Since 1978, the Commission has issued 355 determinations of censure against judges in New York State. The Commission has issued 185 determinations of removal and 289 determinations of admonition.

The Commission has accepted 150 permanent resignation stipulations, in which the judge has agreed to leave office and never seek or accept judicial office in the future, since the procedure was instituted in 2003.

The Court of Appeals has reviewed 102 Commission determinations. The results are available on the Commission's website at "<u>Appealed Decisions</u>."

<u>Counsel</u>

Judge Klein was represented by Deborah A. Scalise, of Scalise & Hamilton, P.C., 111 Brook Street, Suite 202, Scarsdale, New York 10583, (914) 725-2801.

The Commission was represented by Deputy Administrator Mark Levine, Principal Attorney Melissa DiPalo and Investigator Hamza Khan.

Background Information on Judge Klein

First Took Office:	2015
Current Term Expires:	December 31, 2034
Year Admitted to the NYS Bar:	1995

Members of the Commission

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

The Public File

The determination and other records are available on the Commission's website: <u>www.cjc.ny.gov</u>.

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 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. Ortt	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