



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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NEWS RELEASE

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Bronx County Judge Charged with Misconduct Resigns

Jeffrey M. Zimmerman, a Judge of the New York City Criminal Court and an Acting Justice of the Supreme Court, Bronx County – who was charged with misconduct by the Commission on Judicial Conduct for engaging in pattern of discourteous behavior, among other things – has resigned from office and agreed to never return.¹

In January 2025, Judge Zimmerman was served with a Formal Written Complaint, alleging that he, while presiding over criminal cases:

- 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;
- 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;

¹ A resignation stipulation was executed on February 21, 2025. The Commission issued an order accepting it on March 13, 2025. The judge’s resignation is effective April 3, 2025.

- Disparaged a fellow judge who authored an opinion with which he disagreed; and
- Failed to be patient, dignified, and courteous to attorneys appearing before him.

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

Judge Zimmerman had served as a Judge of the New York City Criminal Court since 2019, and an Acting Justice of the Supreme Court since 2023. He previously served as an interim Judge of the New York City Civil Court from 2018 to 2019. His current term would have expired on December 31, 2028.

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

Statement by Commission Administrator

Commission Administrator Robert H. Tembeckjian made the following statement.

“Judges are obliged to be patient, dignified and courteous with all whom they see in their professional capacity, and to afford all litigants and their lawyers the opportunity to be heard. They must also refrain from praising or criticizing a jury for its verdict. Judge Zimmerman's permanent resignation from the bench resolves this matter.”

Statistics Relating to Prior Commission Decisions

The Commission has accepted 148 such stipulations since the procedure was instituted in 2003.

Since 1978, the Commission has issued 288 determinations of admonition against judges in New York State, 352 determinations of censure and 185 determinations of removal.

The Court of Appeals has reviewed 102 Commission determinations. The Court accepted the Commission's sanctions in 86 cases (77 of which were removals, six were censures and three were admonitions). Of the remaining 16 cases, two sanctions were increased from censure to removal, and 13 were reduced: nine removal determinations were modified to censure, one removal was modified to admonition, two censures were modified to admonition, and one censure was

rejected and the charges dismissed. The Court remitted one matter to the Commission for further proceedings.

Counsel

In the proceedings before the Commission, Judge Zimmerman 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 Jennifer L. Lowry and Investigators Andy Fenwick and Annie Hagerty.

Background Information on Judge Zimmerman

First took office (Civil Court):	2018
First took office (Criminal Court):	2019
Current term expires:	December 31, 2028
Year Admitted to NYS Bar:	1985

Members of the Commission

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

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 Wilson	March 31, 2028
Stefano Cambareri, Esq.	Assembly Minority Leader William A. Barclay	March 31, 2025
Brian C. Doyle, Esq.	Senate Minority Leader Robert G. Ort	March 31, 2028
Hon. John A. Falk	Former Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2025
Hon. Robert J. Miller	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2026
Nina M. Moore, Ph.D.	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2027
Marvin Ray Raskin, Esq.	Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie	March 31, 2026
Hon. Anil C. Singh	Chief Judge Rowan Wilson	March 31, 2026
Akosua Garcia Yeboah	Former Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2025