



NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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NEWS RELEASE

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Manhattan Criminal Court Judge Should Be Censured for Courtroom “Experiment” with a Gun

The New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct has determined that Jeffrey A. Gershuny, a Judge of the New York City Criminal Court (New York County), should be censured for intentionally deceiving a police officer who was testifying at a suppression hearing.

Judge Gershuny agreed to the censure.

In August 2025, as the officer was testifying about the gun he had retrieved after searching a bag, Judge Gershuny announced a “little experiment” to test the officer’s ability to recognize the presence of a gun. Over the prosecutor’s objection, the judge displayed his own handgun and a shopping bag to those in the courtroom, then secretly placed the weapon on the floor and put a stapler in the bag.¹ He proceeded to question the officer at length, falsely repeating that the bag contained his firearm. Only after the exchange did he reveal that he had misled the witness and everyone else in the courtroom.

¹ At the judge’s direction, a court officer verified that the weapon was unloaded.

In its determination the Commission found that Judge Gershuny “exercised poor judgment when he engaged in deceptive conduct,” and noted that his actions were “inappropriate for a judge who is ‘sworn to uphold the truth-seeking process.’”

In noting that judges of certain courts are permitted by law to bring their licensed, concealed firearms to court, the Commission recommended that the Office of Court Administration “take steps to familiarize all judges with the appropriate rules and safe procedures, and ensure that court officers are appropriately advised of any weapons in courthouses.”

Judge Gershuny has served as Judge of the New York City Criminal Court since 2019. His current term expires on December 31, 2031.²

Statement by Commission Administrator

Commission Administrator Robert H. Tembeckjian made the following statement.

“Public confidence in the integrity of the courts depends on judges being honest and above-board. Judge Gershuny did not abide by that standard when he engaged in an elaborate deception and essentially tried to trick a witness on a significant evidentiary matter. To their credit, the witness testified carefully, and the judge was apologetic and cooperative with the Commission.”

The Commission Proceedings

Judge Gershuny was served with a Formal Written Complaint dated May 14, 2026, containing one charge.

On September 11, 2026, the Administrator of the Commission, Judge Gershuny 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 September 24, 2026.

² He has served in New York County since 2025, previously sitting in Kings County from 2024 to 2025 and in Queens County from 2019 to 2024. The judge also served as an Interim Judge of the Civil Court, Queens County, from 2018 to 2019, and an Acting Justice of the Supreme Court, Kings County, from 2024 to 2025.

The Commission Determination

The Commission filed a determination dated October 2, 2026, 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 October 9, 2026, that Judge Gershuny 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 Gershuny 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 362 determinations of censure against judges in New York State. The Commission has issued 190 determinations of removal and 293 determinations of admonition.

The Commission has accepted 163 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 "[Appealed Decisions](#)." Three requests for review are currently pending.

Counsel

Judge Gershuny was represented by Michael C. Farkas, of the Law Office of Michael C. Farkas, PLLC, 32 Court Street, Suite 408, Brooklyn, New York 11201, (212) 760-8400.

The Commission was represented by Deputy Administrator Mark Levine, Principal Attorney Vickie Ma and Investigator Ariana Eftimiu.

Background Information on Judge Gershuny

First Took Office (Criminal Court):	2019
Current Term Expires:	December 31, 2031
Prior Judicial Experience:	
Interim Civil Court Judge	2018-2019
Acting Supreme Court Justice	2024-2025
Year Admitted to NYS Bar:	2002

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: www.cjc.ny.gov.

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
Hon. David Fried	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2030
Robin Chappelle Golston	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2029
Nina M. Moore, Ph.D.	Governor Kathy Hochul	March 31, 2027
Hon. Peter H. Moulton	Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson	March 31, 2030
Marvin Ray Raskin, Esq.	Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie	March 31, 2030