

BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

FILED
SEP 3 1995

In Re the Matter of)
)
Honorable Ralph L. Perkins)
Pend Oreille County District Court)
229 S. Garden)
P.O. Box 5030)
Newport, WA 99156-5030)
_____)

No. 93-1474-F-42

STATEMENT OF
CHARGES

COMMISSION ON
JUDICIAL CONDUCT

This Statement of Charges is filed alleging violation by the Honorable Ralph L. Perkins of the Rules of Judicial Conduct pursuant to the authority granted in Chapter 2.64 RCW and Chapters 292-08 and 292-12 WAC, and at the order of the Commission on Judicial Conduct. The charges are set forth in the following paragraphs.

1. The Honorable Ralph L. Perkins, Respondent herein, is now and was at all times discussed herein a Judge of the Pend Oreille County District Court.

2. On June 16, 1993, Respondent was sent a letter from the Commission on Judicial Conduct informing him that a Verified Statement was filed in accordance with WAC 292-12-010(4) and the Commission was pursuing initial proceedings. A Statement of Allegations was enclosed, and a response was invited. Respondent did not respond to the Statement of Allegations.

3. On or about February 27, 1993, Respondent with or without provocation did intentionally strike and cause bodily harm to Anna K. Nordtvedt, his then-spouse, at the residence at 11357 Sand Creek Road, Metaline Falls, Pend Oreille County, State of Washington. The event was recorded under Incident No. 93-0406, Pend Oreille County Sheriff's Department LAW Incident Table.

4. On or about March 27, 1993, Respondent did intentionally assault and inflict substantial bodily harm upon Anna K. Nordtvedt, his then-spouse, at the residence at 11357 Sand Creek Road, Metaline Falls, Pend Oreille County, State of Washington. The event was recorded under Incident No. 93-0533, Pend Oreille County Sheriff's Department LAW Incident Table.

5. On September 3, 1993, in State of Washington v. Ralph L. Perkins, Pend Oreille County Superior Court Case No. 93-1-00030-1, Respondent did plead guilty to Assault In the Fourth Degree to each of the charges. The Court accepted the plea.

6. The Commission has determined that probable cause exists for believing that Respondent has violated the Code of Judicial Conduct (CJC), including without limitation, Canons 1 and 2(A) which state:

CANON 1

Judges Should Uphold the Integrity and Independence of the Judiciary

An independent and honorable judiciary is indispensable to justice in our society. Judges should participate in establishing, maintaining, and enforcing, and should themselves observe high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary may be preserved. The provisions of this code should be construed and applied to further that objective.

CANON 2

Judges Should Avoid Impropriety and the Appearance of Impropriety in All Their Activities

(A) Judges should respect and comply with the law and should conduct themselves at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHT TO FILE WRITTEN ANSWER

In accordance with WAC 292-12-030(5), the Respondent is herewith informed that

a written answer may be filed with the Commission to the charges contained in the Statement of Charges within twenty-one (21) days after the date of service. If Respondent does not file a written answer, a general denial will be entered on behalf of Respondent. The Statement of Charges and Answer shall be the only pleading required.

DATED this 31st day of September, 1993.

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

David Akana

David Akana
Executive Director
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