

FILED

FEB - 4 2000

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

NO. 98-2776-F-83

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

The Honorable Harry Slusher

STIPULATION AND ORDER

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 31 of the Washington Constitution, Chapter 2.64 RCW, and CJCRP, the Washington Commission on Judicial Conduct ("Commission") and the Honorable Harry Slusher ("Respondent") hereby stipulate and agree as follows:

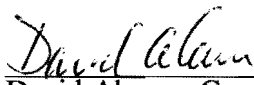
1. The Honorable Harry Slusher, Respondent herein, was a Superior Court Commissioner in King County, Washington from August 28, 1990 to May 31, 1998.
2. The Commission has reason to commence an investigation pursuant to its constitutional authority based upon information concerning the conduct of Respondent. Such conduct, if established, would support a determination that Respondent has violated the Code of Judicial Conduct. Respondent does not dispute that the Commission, if it can establish violations of the Code, can take appropriate action under Article IV, Section 31 of the Washington Constitution. The Commission has information that while presiding as a Superior Court Commissioner in 1997 in the custody case of Gongora-Miller v. Miller, Cause No. 97-3-00305-2 KNT, Respondent appointed Dr. Natalie Novick as a therapist for the child in the case. During subsequent proceedings in the case, Respondent considered and acted upon recommendations of Dr. Novick, including orders regarding custodial placement of the child. Respondent failed to disclose to the parties the fact that he had a social relationship with Dr. Novick which, at a minimum, raised the appearance of impropriety.
3. Respondent resigned from his position as Commissioner of the King County Superior Court as of May 31, 1998, is not performing judicial functions, and has not served in a

1 judicial capacity since that date.

- 2 4. Respondent agrees that following the execution of the Stipulation, he shall not seek or
3 serve in any position performing judicial functions without first securing approval from the
4 Commission in the manner provided in CJCRP 28, or its successor or replacement.
5 Respondent further agrees that should Respondent seek any position involving judicial
6 functions, the Commission may release information to a government agency or judicial
7 qualifications organization pursuant to CJCRP 11(b)(1)(A) and 11(b)(7), or their
8 successors or replacements.
- 9 5. The Commission shall close this matter without further proceedings, effective February 4,
10 2000.
- 11 6. This Stipulation shall not become effective until approved by the Commission on Judicial
12 Conduct. If the Stipulation is not accepted, the matter will proceed as though this
13 Stipulation was not entered into.

14
15 
16 Honorable Harry Slusher

1-12-00
Dated

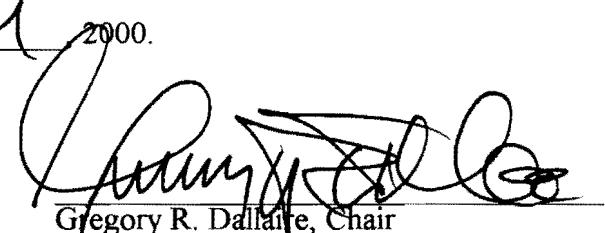
17 
18 David Akana, Counsel for Commission

1/14/00
Dated

20 **ORDER**

21 Based upon the Stipulation of Respondent Harry Slusher set forth above, the Commission
22 hereby orders closure of this proceeding effective February 4, 2000.

23 Dated this 4th day of FEBRUARY 2000.

24
25 
26 Gregory R. Dallaire, Chair
27 Commission on Judicial Conduct