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COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

The Honorable Stephen L. Conroy
Lynnwood and Edmonds Municipal Courts
Snohomish County, WA

NO. 3147-F-87

STIPULATION, AGREEMENT AND ORDER
OF CENSURE

The Commission on Judicial Conduct and the Honorable Stephen L. Conroy, Lynnwood and Edmonds Municipal Courts Judge, do hereby stipulate and agree as provided for herein. This stipulation is submitted pursuant to the Washington Constitution, Article IV, Section 31 and CJCRP 23, and shall not become effective until approved by the Washington Commission on Judicial Conduct.

The Commission on Judicial Conduct is represented in these proceedings by its counsel, Paul Taylor, and the Honorable Stephen L. Conroy is representing himself.

STIPULATED FACTS

1. The Honorable Stephen L. Conroy, Respondent, was a judge of the Edmonds Municipal Court from 1986 to the present. He was a judge of the Lynnwood Municipal Court from 1990 to the present.
2. Respondent stipulates that if a contested hearing were held in this matter, clear, cogent and convincing evidence would be presented sufficient to establish the following:
 - a) Respondent intentionally made false and misleading statements to Commission investigators during an interview conducted on October 20, 1999.

1 b) Respondent presided over a traffic infraction hearing involving a person with whom he
2 had an intimate personal relationship. He dismissed the citation based on the existence of the
3 personal relationship, and not based on any legal or factual considerations relating to the
4 citation.

5 c) Respondent presided over various matters where he should have recused himself because
6 he had an intimate personal relationship with one of the parties and/or witnesses.

7 d) Respondent presided over a matter involving a defendant who he had previously
8 represented in a different matter. Respondent should have recused himself. Instead,
9 Respondent relied upon knowledge gained from that prior relationship in granting defendant
10 leniency.

11 **AGREEMENT**

- 12 1. Respondent agrees and stipulates that the behaviors described above are violations of Canons
13 1, 2 (A), 2 (B), 3 (A)(1,4,5), and 3 (D)(1) of the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- 14 2. Respondent agrees and stipulates that based upon such facts, the Commission could impose a
15 sanction of censure and recommend to the State Supreme Court his suspension or removal
16 from his judicial office.
- 17 3. Respondent agrees and stipulates to the acceptance of a censure and to the resignation of his
18 judicial offices in the cities of Lynnwood and Edmonds, effective October 6, 2000.
19 Respondent's resignation is attached hereto as Exhibit A. A censure is a written action of the
20 Commission that finds that the conduct of the respondent violates a rule of judicial conduct,
21 detrimentally affects the integrity of the judiciary, and undermines public confidence in the
22 administration of justice.
- 23 4. Respondent agrees that after the effective date of his resignation, he shall not seek nor hold
24 any judicial office, nor perform any judicial duties in the future without first securing
25 approval from the Commission on Judicial Conduct in the manner provided in CJCRP 28, or
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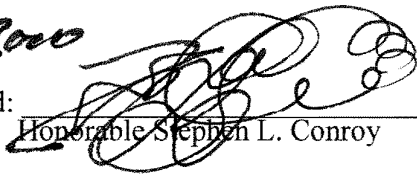
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its successor or replacement rule. Respondent agrees that should Respondent seek any position involving judicial or quasi-judicial functions, the Commission may release information to a governmental or judicial qualifications organization pursuant to CJCRP 11, or the successor or replacement rule.

5. Respondent agrees and stipulates further that he shall not engage in any retaliatory conduct with regard to any person known or suspected to have cooperated with the Commission on Judicial Conduct, or otherwise associated with this matter.
6. Respondent agrees and stipulates further that by entering into this Stipulation he hereby waives any procedural and appeal rights pursuant to the Commission on Judicial Conduct Rules of Procedure and Article IV, Section 31 of the Washington State Constitution in this proceeding.


9.7.2000

Dated:



Honorable Stephen L. Conroy

Dated:



Paul R. Taylor, WSBA #14851
Attorney for Commission on
Judicial Conduct

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) Lynnwood and Edmonds Municipal Courts
) Snohomish County, WA
)

)
) ORDER OF CENSURE AND ACCEPTANCE
) OF STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

Based upon the annexed Stipulation and Agreement, the Commission on Judicial Conduct hereby Orders and Judge Stephen L. Conroy is hereby CENSURED for violating Canons 1, 2 (A), 2 (B), 3 (A)(1,4,5), and 3 (D)(1) of the Code of Judicial Conduct. Respondent shall fulfill all of the terms of the Stipulation and Agreement as set forth therein, and the Commission hereby accepts Respondent's resignation from office.

Dated this 6th day of October, 2000.



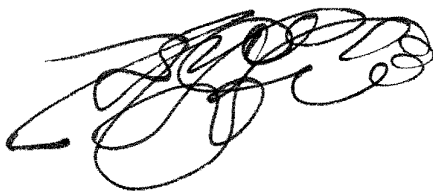
Todd Whitrock, Vice Chair
Commission on Judicial Conduct

September 5, 2000

To: Mayor Gary Haakenson

From: Stephen Conroy

I must resign as city judge. Personal reasons causing a heavy burden in my life preclude me from being the public servant I am expected to be. I have been honored to serve as city judge.

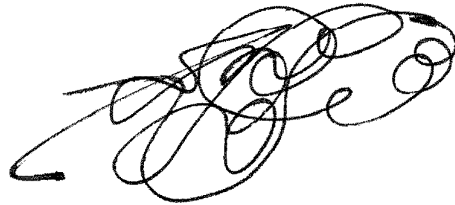
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Stephen Conroy", written in a cursive style.

September 5, 2000

To: Mayor Tina Roberts

From: Stephen Conroy

I must resign as city judge. Personal reasons causing a heavy burden in my life preclude me from being the public servant I am expected to be. I have been honored to serve as city judge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Conroy". The signature is highly stylized and somewhat illegible due to the cursive and overlapping nature of the lines.