

**BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**

FILED
MAY 11 2018
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

In Re the Matter of:)
)
The Honorable Kathleen E. Hitchcock,)
Former Judge of the Granger)
Municipal Court)

CJC No. 8460-F-177

**STIPULATION, AGREEMENT AND
ORDER OF DISMISSAL**

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 31 of the Washington State Constitution and Rules 23 and 29 of the Commission on Judicial Conduct Rules of Procedure, the Commission on Judicial Conduct (“Commission”) and Kathleen Hitchcock (“Respondent”) stipulate and agree as follows.

I. STIPULATION

A. Kathleen E. Hitchcock (“Respondent”) is a former Granger Municipal Court Judge. She served as a part-time judge in that court from July 2005 until October 2017.

B. On October 3, 2014, Respondent entered into a stipulation with the Commission to resolve case CJC No. 7377-F-160. That stipulation required, among other things, that Respondent complete ten hours of courses in judicial ethics, approved in advance by the Chair of the Commission, within two years of the filing of the stipulation.

C. The Commission initiated this current disciplinary proceeding against Respondent by serving her with a Statement of Allegations on March 13, 2017, alleging she failed to comply with the remedial terms of the stipulation identified in preceding paragraph above.

D. Respondent answered the Statement of Allegations by letter dated March 28, 2017. In her answer, Respondent acknowledged she failed to complete any pre-approved judicial ethics training courses as required by the stipulation.

E. At its executive session on March 9, 2018, the Commission found probable cause exists to believe that the Respondent violated the Code of Judicial Conduct by failing to comply with the terms of her 2014 stipulated agreement.

F. Respondent recently experienced a series of serious medical issues that significantly

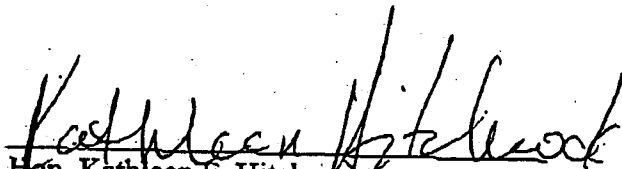
limited her ability to work.

II. AGREEMENT

A. Respondent agrees that she will not serve in any future judicial position that is subject to the Code of Judicial Conduct without the Commission's approval. In exchange, the Commission will close this disciplinary matter without further proceedings.


B. While the Commission retains the jurisdiction and authority to proceed against a retired or former judge, the goal of the Commission to maintain public confidence in the integrity of the judicial system is adequately addressed by termination of these proceedings in light of the fact that Respondent is not currently serving as a judicial officer and agrees herein to not serve as a judicial officer in the future without Commission approval.

C. Respondent agrees that by entering into this stipulation and agreement, she hereby waives her procedural rights 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.



Hon. Kathleen E. Hitchcock
Respondent

5-3-18
Date



J. Reiko Callner
Executive Director
Commission on Judicial Conduct

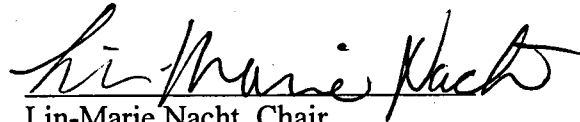
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III. ORDER

A. This pending disciplinary matter, CJC No. 8460-F-177, is DISMISSED in the interest of justice. Pursuant to Respondent's agreement, Respondent shall not hereafter seek nor serve in any form of judicial office without prior consent of the Commission.

B. This disciplinary proceeding shall be closed and terminated subject to any Commission action necessary to enforce the Respondent's disqualification from office.

Dated this 11th day of MAY, 2018.



Lin-Marie Nacht, Chair
Commission on Judicial Conduct