

**BEFORE THE JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA**

**IN THE MATTER OF  
DAVID H. DEHAVEN,  
FORMER MAGISTRATE OF BERKELEY COUNTY**

**COMPLAINT NOS. 234-2024  
237-2024**

**PUBLIC ADMONISHMENT OF DAVID H. DEHAVEN  
FORMER MAGISTRATE OF BERKELEY COUNTY**

The matter is before the Judicial Investigation Commission (“JIC”) upon complaints filed by The Honorable Darrell Shull, Chief Magistrate of Berkeley County, setting forth certain allegations against David H. Dehaven, former Magistrate of Berkeley County (“Respondent”). After a review of the complaints, Respondent’s written replies and sworn statement of April 28, 2025, the evidence gathered therefrom, the April 30, 2025 signed agreement (attached hereto), Respondent’s resignation letter and the pertinent Rules contained in the Code of Judicial Conduct, the JIC found probable cause on June 6, 2025, that Respondent violated Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.5(A), 2.9, and 2.16(A) of the Code of Judicial Conduct. Since Respondent has resigned as magistrate and agreed never again to seek judicial office in West Virginia by election or appointment, the JIC found that formal discipline was not necessary but that Respondent be publicly admonished pursuant to RJDP 1.11 and 2.7(c) as set forth in the following statement of facts and conclusions of law.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

Respondent was elected as Magistrate of Berkeley County in the May 2024 election and was set to take office on January 1, 2025. However, the magistrate who he defeated resigned early and Respondent was appointed to the bench in September 2024. At all times relevant to the instant investigation, Respondent was serving as a Magistrate.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

### A. Complaint No. 234-2024:

Respondent was assigned to preside over the felony preliminary hearing in *State v. Katerina Turner*, Berkeley County Magistrate Court Case No. 24-M02F-00645. The defendant in the case was charged with felony child neglect resulting in death. Her husband was a co-defendant in the case. Ms. Turner's preliminary hearing was set for November 26, 2024. At the time of Ms. Turner's preliminary hearing she was incarcerated on a \$15,000.00 cash bond. Her husband was out on bond and had his preliminary hearing at another time.

At the beginning of the hearing, Respondent was advised that Ms. Turner's attorney had withdrawn due to a conflict, and she was without representation. Shortly after that, her husband, who was wearing casual clothes and was sitting in the gallery, stood up and started to argue for a bond reduction on behalf of his wife. The assistant prosecutor objected since the husband was not an attorney but Respondent ignored his objection. After addressing the bond reduction for over five minutes and incurring another prosecutorial objection that fell on deaf ears, Respondent invited the husband to cross the bar and sit next to his wife at counsel table. The husband then continued to advocate for another six minutes before a bailiff intervened about a security risk that had been caused by allowing the husband to cross the bar. At that point, Respondent ordered the husband to leave the courtroom. Ultimately, the Respondent reduced the wife's bail, and she was able to bond out of the regional jail.

On December 9, 2024, the Chief Magistrate filed a complaint against Respondent alleging that he improperly allowed the husband to represent his wife in the matter thereby creating a security risk in the courtroom. By email dated March 3, 2025, Respondent replied to the allegations. Respondent stated:

During the hearing the defendant, Katerina Turner was visibly upset, crying etc. From the bench I inquired to her if she was alright. She stated she had difficulty hearing and seeing and that her eyesight was bad. During my inquiring of her condition there was a gentleman in the back of the courtroom who spoke up (not yelling) but I could not understand what he was saying. I asked him to repeat himself as I thought this could be a possible witness etc. in the case. The gentleman spoke a little louder but I still couldn't understand what he was saying. I asked him to come forward and once I could understand what he was actually saying, and by the way he spoke it seemed that he could possibly be Katerina's attorney. I then asked him to identify himself and he stated he was Katerina's Turner's husband. I further inquired if he was also an attorney and he made a statement that he watched law shows on TV or something to that effect. The gentleman seemed deeply concerned of his wife's medical conditions. I advised the gentleman that unless he was a licensed attorney and licensed to practice in the State of WV, he could not represent his wife. At this point the Deputy Court Marshall approached me and advised me that I was creating a security violation. At that point I informed the gentleman . . . he would have to leave the courtroom.

The three bailiffs and the assistant prosecutor who were present at the preliminary hearing and security video of the proceeding do not support Respondent's claims. The security video demonstrates that the communication between the husband and Respondent lasted approximately eleven and a half minutes. For the first part, the husband was standing just behind the bar some four feet from where his wife was sitting. For the second part of the encounter, the husband was sitting next to her at counsel table. The testimony by the witnesses indicated that after Respondent introduced himself, the husband raised his hand to speak and was advised to put it down. Respondent then asked the husband if he was married to Ms. Turner and he replied that he was her spouse. In his sworn statement Respondent admitted that he reviewed the criminal complaint before the hearing and acknowledged that it indicated that the husband was her co-defendant. Instead of shutting the husband down at this point he continued to allow him to advocate for his wife. When the assistant prosecutor objected on the ground that the husband was not a lawyer and therefore could not represent his wife, Respondent ignored him. The husband continued to advocate for his wife and the assistant prosecutor made a second objection. When one of the

bailiffs told the husband to sit down, Respondent then stated, “No. I want him to come up to the defendant’s table.” He then motioned for the husband to sit next to his wife. The assistant prosecutor then said he wanted no part of the matter and moved to the back of the courtroom well behind the bar. All parties conceded that the matter ended when Respondent was advised of the security risk that had been created and the husband left the courtroom.

**B. Complaint No. 237-2024:**

In Berkeley County, the Magistrates usually go to the regional jail to conduct arraignments when on-call instead of handling them by video. Prior to the incident giving rise to the Complaint, no magistrate had ever taken someone not associated with the court system into the jail. In October 2024, Respondent went to the jail to hold arraignments and took his girlfriend<sup>1</sup> into the facility with him. When asked by a correctional officer who the woman was, Respondent falsely stated that she was his magistrate assistant.

On December 17, 2024, the Chief Magistrate filed a complaint on Respondent. By email dated March 3, 2025, Respondent stated:

When I was on-call on October 12, 2025, I went to the Eastern Regional Jail to perform arraignments. I did have a female friend with me that gave me a ride to the Eastern Regional Jail due to my car needing to go into the shop for some repairs. When I entered the jail to perform arraignments a Correctional Officer . . . made a funny comment to me and said, “Oh you brought someone in to assist you. Jokingly back I said, “Yes,” but it was

---

<sup>1</sup> This is not the first time that Respondent had his girlfriend or other friends come to work while he was on duty. Oftentimes, he would bring them in a restricted area within the courthouse. As a result, the chief circuit judge entered an administrative order on February 26, 2025, which indicated that “[m]agistrates and magistrate court staff must require all visitors to enter the judicial center through security screening” and “all magistrates and staff must meet visitors in a non-sensitive area. Personal exceptions may be granted at the discretion of the Chief Magistrate.” The Order also indicated that the Chief Court Marshall must be advised in advance of the visit. On or about March 13, 2025, in violation of the Administrative Order, Respondent brought a friend into a secure area near where a jury was deliberating a case. Respondent denied that he had done so despite being caught on security video. Interestingly, Respondent also brought his girlfriend with him to the sworn statement administered by Judicial Disciplinary Counsel.

only in [a] funny reply to the Correctional Officer. I never informed **the** Correctional staff that it was my new assistant or otherwise. . . . I was **not** aware of non-court personnel not being allowed at the Eastern Regional Jail until after Magistrate Shull mentioned to me on the telephone many days after he filed the judicial complaint.

During his sworn statement, Respondent said nothing about a problem with **his** vehicle. He said he brought his girlfriend into the jail with him because she was afraid to sit in **the** parking lot since there were some nefarious looking people there. He stated that the correctional officer asked if she was his magistrate assistant to which he jokingly replied that she was. Respondent stated that he did not think about the security risk prior to taking his friend in the jail but was now cognizant of the potential harm he placed her in.

**C. Miscellaneous:**

During the course of the investigation, JDC encountered additional Code violations:

- (1) Respondent was assigned to preside over an Aggravated DUI case styled *State v. Ganimedes Delangel Rojas-Garcia*, Berkeley County Magistrate Court Case No. 24-MO2M-02231. The defense attorney filed several Motions including a Motion to Suppress Secondary Chemical Test and to Suppress Field Sobriety Tests. A hearing was scheduled for March 25, 2025. Two days before the hearing, Respondent granted the Motion without giving the State an opportunity to respond. The State found out through defense counsel that the motion had been granted. The scheduled hearing was then canceled. Thus, Respondent clearly failed to give the State an opportunity to be heard before ruling on the matter.

- (2) On December 10, 2024 and December 19, 2024, JDC sent Respondent written requests for information on Complaint Nos. 234 and 237-2024. Respondent was given ten days to submit his responses. By email on December 26, 2024, Respondent asked for an extension of time with which to respond. He said, “I have only partially completed my response due to workload responsibilities.” He was given an additional ten days to respond to the allegations contained in each of the complaints. On February 28, 2025, Respondent received a follow-up letter indicating that no response had been received and that failure to answer or timely answer was a violation of Rule 2.16. On March 3, 2025, Respondent emailed two brief written replies to the complaints.

In his written replies and during his sworn statement, Respondent also blamed his problems on a lack of training. However, in the seven months he served as a magistrate, Respondent attended three trainings put on by the Supreme Court of Appeals of WV. The Chief Magistrate also stated that he has counseled Respondent on courtroom procedure. All of the magistrates interviewed by the JDC also indicated that while they tried to help Respondent acclimate to the position but “if you tell him to do something, he does the total opposite. He doesn’t listen.”

As a result of the investigation, Judicial Disciplinary Counsel entered into the attached agreement signed by Respondent.<sup>2</sup> Pursuant thereto, Respondent agreed to immediately resign from his magistrate’s position, to never again seek judicial office in West Virginia by election or

---

<sup>2</sup> JIC Counsel encouraged Respondent to talk to an attorney about the agreement before deciding whether to enter into it. However, Respondent declined.

appointment, and to accept an admonishment from the JIC for violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The Commission unanimously<sup>3</sup> found that probable cause exists in the matters set forth above to find that David H. Dehaven, former Magistrate of Berkeley County, violated Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.5(A), 2.9, and 2.16(A) of the Code of Judicial Conduct as set forth below:

### **1.1 – Compliance With the Law**

A judge shall comply with the law, including the West Virginia Code of Judicial Conduct.

### **1.2 – Confidence in the Judiciary**

A judge shall act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary, and shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety.

### **2.1 -- Giving Precedence to the Duties of Judicial Office**

The duties of judicial office, as prescribed by law, shall take precedence over all of a judge's personal and extrajudicial activities.

### **2.2 – Impartiality and Fairness**

A judge shall uphold and apply the law and shall perform all duties of judicial office fairly and impartially.

### **2.5 – Competence, Diligence and Cooperation**

(A) A judge shall perform judicial and administrative duties competently and diligently.

### **2.9 – *Ex Parte* Communications**

(A) Judge shall not initiate, permit, or consider *ex parte* communications, or consider other communications made to the judge outside the presence of the parties or their lawyers concerning a pending or impending matter. . . .

### **2.16 Cooperation with Disciplinary Authorities**

---

<sup>3</sup> The vote was 7-0 for the issuance of an admonishment with one member recused and another absent.

- (A) A judge shall cooperate and be candid and honest with judicial and lawyer disciplinary agencies.

The Commission further found that formal discipline was not essential as Respondent had agreed to immediately resign as magistrate and to never again seek judicial office by election or appointment. However, the Commission found that the violations were grave enough to warrant a public admonishment.

The Preamble to the Code of Judicial Conduct provides:

Our legal system is based on the principle that an independent, fair and competent judiciary will interpret and apply the laws that govern us. The role of the judiciary is central to the American concepts of justice and the rule of law. Intrinsic to all sections of this Code are the precepts that judges, individually and collectively, must respect and honor the judicial office as a public trust and strive to enhance and maintain confidence in our legal system. The judge is an arbiter of facts and law for the resolution of disputes and a highly visible symbol of government under the rule of law. . . . Good judgment and adherence to high moral and personal standards are also important.

Comment [1] to Rule 1.2 states that “[p]ublic confidence in the judiciary is eroded by improper conduct and conduct that creates the appearance of impropriety. This principle applies to both the professional and personal conduct of a judge.” Comment [2] provides that “[a] judge should expect to be the subject of public scrutiny that might be viewed as burdensome if applied to other citizens and must accept the restrictions imposed by the Code.” Comment [3] notes that “[c]onduct that compromises or appears to compromise the independence, integrity, and impartiality of a judge undermines public confidence in the judiciary.” Comment [4] states that “[j]udges should participate in activities that promote ethical conduct among judges and lawyers, support professionalism within the judiciary and the legal profession, and promote access to justice for all.” Comment [5] provides:



Actual improprieties include violations of law, court rules or provisions of this Code. The test for appearance of impropriety is whether the conduct would create in reasonable minds a perception that the judge violated this Code or engaged in other conduct that reflects adversely on the judge's honesty, impartiality, temperament, or fitness to serve as a judge.

Comment [1] to Rule 2.2 states that a judge must be “objective and open-minded” to ensure impartiality and fairness to all parties. Importantly, Comment [2] notes that “a judge must interpret and apply the law without regard to whether the judge approves or disapproves of the law in question.”

Comment [1] to Rule 2.5 states that “[c]ompetence in the performance of judicial duties requires the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation reasonably necessary to perform a judge’s responsibilities of judicial office.” Comment [4] provides that “in disposing of matters promptly and efficiently, a judge must demonstrate due regard for the rights of the parties to be heard and to have issues resolved without unnecessary cost or delay.”

Comment [1] to Rule 2.9 states that “[t]he extent reasonably possible, all parties or their lawyers shall be included in communications with a judge.” Comment [6] notes that the prohibition to investigate the facts in a matter extends to information available in all mediums. Comment [1] to Rule 2.16 provides that “[c]ooperation with investigations and proceedings of judicial and lawyer discipline agencies, as required in paragraph (A), instills confidence in judges’ commitment to the integrity of the judicial system and the protection of the public.”

The Preamble to the Code of Judicial Conduct states:

- [1} An independent, fair and impartial judiciary is indispensable to our system of justice. The United States legal system is based upon the principle that an independent, impartial, and competent judiciary, composed of men and women of integrity, will interpret and apply the law that governs our society. Thus, the judiciary plays a central role in preserving the principles of justice and the rule of law. Inherent in all the Rules contained in this Coode are the precepts that judges, individually and collectively, must respect and honor the judicial office

as a public trust and strive to maintain and enhance confidence in the legal system.

- [2] Judges should maintain the dignity of judicial office at all times and avoid both impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in their professional and personal lives. They should aspire at all times to conduct that ensures the greatest possible public confidence in their independence, impartiality, integrity and competence.

The “bar” refers to the legal profession as a whole – licensed practicing attorneys. It’s also a metaphorical term, originally referring to the physical barrier in courtrooms that separates the audience from the legal profession. It is a misdemeanor crime in West Virginia for a person to practice or appear as an attorney-at-law for another without having been licensed and admitted to practice law in the courts of this state, and without having subscribed and taken the oath. *See* W. Va. Code § 30-2-4. Additionally, litigants in a proceeding can only represent themselves or be represented by a licensed attorney. This is something judges learn from the outset in their judicial career.

In *Matter of O’Briant*, JIC Case No.41-2017 (WV 2017) , a circuit judge was admonished for allowing a law school graduate who was unlicensed to practice law in any state or federal court and who worked for a firm as a paralegal to represent clients in magistrate court. The Commission found that the circuit judge violated Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 2.5(A) and 2.13(A)(2) for his conduct stating:

Respondent clearly abrogated his duty in signing the Order which improperly allowed [the individual] to practice. . . . A review of the law by Respondent would have revealed that [the individual] was not able to practice law without a valid license. That examination of the law would also have made the judge aware that he did not have the authority to confer such a privilege upon [the individual]. Thus, it is evident to the Commission that Respondent failed to use due diligence when he failed to conduct adequate research and analysis before signing the order.

*Id.* at 7.

In this case, the assistant prosecutor twice brought the problem to Respondent's attention, and he ignored the objections. Respondent also later lied to the Commission in his written response and his sworn statement about the events giving rise to the complaint. Thus, Respondent violated Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.5(A) and 2.16(A) of the Code of Judicial Conduct and is admonished for the same.

Concerning the issue surrounding the jail, Respondent claimed he was joking when he said his girlfriend was his assistant. Assuming the Commission believes him which it does not, a judge can be disciplined for joking about a matter. In *Matter of Tennant*, 205 W. Va. 92, 516 S.E.2d 496 (1999), the State Supreme Court held that a magistrate candidate's personal solicitation of campaign contributions warranted an admonishment even though he may have made them as a joke. The Court stated:

Assuming arguendo, that the Respondent's request for a campaign contribution was a joke, the Respondent's attempt to either lessen the significance of the violation or to negate the violation entirely by contending that the solicitation was a joke is disingenuous. For this Court to accept such an argument would essentially undermine the clear unambiguous language of the canon. Nowhere in the plain language of the canon is there even an inference that a solicitation made in jest is permissible. . . . Further just because the Respondent may have made the comment in jest, does not necessarily mean that the comment was received by the attorneys who heard it in jest. Quite to the contrary, from the testimony of [one of the individual's solicited], his interpretation of the comment was that the Respondent made a serious solicitation. . . .

The testimony of the correctional officer in the instant case was that he thought the woman was the Magistrate's new assistant. He knew the assistant and called her the following Monday to see if she had left or was leaving the position. One thing is clear, Respondent attempted to hide the identity of the friend so the correctional officers would believe she had a right to accompany him into the jail. By his actions, Respondent violated Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.5(A) and 2.16(A) and is admonished for the same.

Giving both sides the opportunity to be heard before ruling on a motion is sacrosanct in our system of justice and something that is taught to judicial officers at the outset. Respondent's failure to afford the assistant prosecutor his chance to respond to the Motion to Dismiss in the DUI case was wholly improper. It is also evident to this Commission that the ruling was made following ex parte communication on a substantive issue between the magistrate and the defense attorney. Therefore, Respondent is admonished for violating Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 2.5(A), and 2.9 of the Code of Judicial Conduct and is admonished for the same.

Lastly, Respondent has a duty to cooperate with Disciplinary Counsel in the investigation of a complaint. Cooperation includes submitting his written responses to the allegations contained in the complaint in a timely manner. Failure to do so is a clear violation of Rule 2.16(A), and Respondent is admonished for his conduct.

The Commission found three disturbing trends on Respondent's part over his seven months in office. The first is a lack of candor to his colleagues, correctional officers at the jail and the Commission. The second relates to competency to do the job. Respondent is clearly unwilling or unable to learn and/or follow the appropriate laws and procedures and his recalcitrance has cast a shadow on the integrity of the court system as a whole. Third, is his continued unwillingness to follow security procedures at the courthouse or the jail. Left unchecked, the liability to the court system would have been great. Accordingly, the Commission had no choice but to seek the immediate resignation of the Respondent.

Thus, it is the decision of the Judicial Investigation Commission that David H. Dehaven, former Magistrate of Berkeley County be disciplined by this Admonishment. Accordingly, the Judicial Investigation Commission hereby publicly admonishes Magistrate Dehaven for his conduct as fully set forth in the matters asserted herein.

\*\*\*\*\*

Pursuant to Rule 2.7(c) of the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure, the Respondent has fourteen (14) days after receipt of the public admonishment to file a written objection to the contents thereof. If the Respondent timely files an objection, the Judicial Investigation Commission shall, pursuant to the Rule, file formal charges with the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.



The Honorable Alan D. Moats Chairperson  
Judicial Investigation Commission

June 6, 2025

Date

ADM/tat

**BEFORE THE JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
THE HONORABLE DAVID H. DEHAVEN  
MAGISTRATE OF BERKELEY COUNTY**

**JIC COMPLAINT NOS. 234-2024,  
237-2024 & 22-2025**

**AGREEMENT**

Magistrate David H. DeHaven, Magistrate of Berkeley County (“Respondent” or “Magistrate DeHaven,”) and Teresa A. Tarr and Brian J. Lanham, Judicial Disciplinary Counsel (“JDC”) hereby enter into this Agreement consisting of the following terms:

1. On December 9, 2024, a judicial ethics complaint was filed against Respondent by The Honorable Darrell Shull, Chief Magistrate of Berkeley County. The complaint was given Complaint No. 234-2024.

2. On December 17, 2024, a second judicial ethics complaint was filed against Respondent by Chief Magistrate Shull and given Complaint No. 237-2024.

3. On February 28, 2025, a third judicial ethics complaint was filed against Respondent by the Honorable Dottie Yost, Magistrate of Berkeley County and given Complaint No. 22-2025.

4. JDC immediately began an investigation of the complaints. After a thorough investigation, JDC Counsel spoke with Respondent in an effort to resolve the complaints without seeking a suspension without pay and filing a formal statement of charges.

5. Respondent and JDC agree to the following terms and conditions:

- a. Magistrate DeHaven agrees to immediately resign his position as Magistrate for Berkeley County, West Virginia, effective on or before 12:00 p.m. (noon) Thursday, May 1, 2025;

- b. Magistrate DeHaven agrees to never again seek judicial office by election or appointment in West Virginia. Judicial office is defined by Application I(A) of the West Virginia Code of Judicial Conduct to include Justices of the Supreme Court of Appeals, Judges of the Intermediate Court of Appeals, Circuit Judges, Family Court Judges, Magistrates, Mental Hygiene Commissioners, Juvenile Referees, Special Commissioners and Special Masters;
- c. Judicial Disciplinary Counsel agrees to recommend to the Judicial Investigation Commission dismissal of Complaint No. 22-2025 and that it issue an admonishment in the above-captioned matter for Complaints No. 234-2024 and 237-2024 in violations of Rules 1.1 (compliance with the law), 1.2 (confidence in the judiciary), 2.1 (giving precedence of the duties of judicial office), 2.2 (impartiality and fairness), 2.5(A) and (competence, diligence and cooperation), 2.9 (*ex parte* communication) and 2.16(A) (cooperation with disciplinary authorities) of the Code of Judicial Conduct for the following:
  - (1) Respondent allowed the co-defendant husband of an incarcerated defendant charged with child neglect resulting in death to act as a lawyer on his wife's behalf and advocate for a bond reduction;
  - (2) Respondent took a non-court employee into a secure area of the jail for arraignments and for lacking candor when he claimed to a jail official that she was his magistrate assistant;

- (3) Respondent's handling of a Motion to Suppress in an aggravated DUI and his failure to afford the State with an opportunity to be heard before granting the defendant's request to dismiss the secondary chemical test; and
  - (4) Respondent failed to timely respond in writing to Complaint Nos. 234-2024 and 237-2024. Respondent also repeatedly lacked candor in his written response to 234-2024 and in his sworn statement of April 28, 2025. concerning the allegations contained therein.
- d. Both parties understand, acknowledge and agree that the decision to accept or reject this agreement is solely within the purview of the Judicial Investigation Commission;
- e. Magistrate DeHaven further understands, acknowledges and agrees that any admonishment issued by the Judicial Investigation Commission is public pursuant to Rule 2.7(c) of the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure;
- f. Magistrate DeHaven also understands, acknowledges and agrees that if he files an objection to any admonishment issued by the Judicial Investigation Commission then the Commission shall be required to consider and/or file a Formal Statement of Charges pursuant to Rule 2.7(c) of the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure;
- g. Magistrate DeHaven also understands, acknowledges and agrees that if he violates any of the terms of this agreement, the parties will be returned to

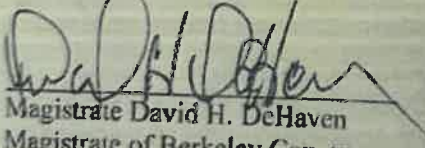


their original positions and the Judicial Investigation Commission may reopen Complaint Nos. 234-2024, 237-2024 and 22-2025 for further investigation and prosecution of any violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct associated therewith. Magistrate DeHaven also agrees that by signing this document he has waived any future statute of limitations argument with respect to the foregoing Complaint Nos. should he violate the terms of the agreement necessitating the prosecution of any violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct;


6. Respondent understands, acknowledges and agrees that he is knowingly and voluntarily entering into this agreement because it is in his best interest and that no other inducements have been promised other than what is contained within the four corners of this document.

7. All parties agree to do everything necessary to ensure that the foregoing terms of this Agreement take effect.

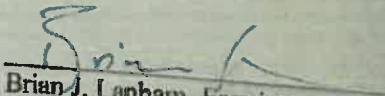
**AGREED:**

  
Magistrate David H. DeHaven  
Magistrate of Berkeley County

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Date

  
Teresa A. Tarr, Esquire  
Judicial Disciplinary Counsel

5/1/2025  
Date

  
Brian J. Lanham, Esquire  
Judicial Disciplinary Counsel

5-1-25  
Date


April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

To: Honorable Judge Debra McLaughlin:

Re: I am submitting my resignation as Magistrate of Berkeley County effective immediately.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

  
David M. DeHaven  
Magistrate