

STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

In the Matter of the Proceeding
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4,
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

WILLIAM L. DEPROSPO,

STIPULATION

a Judge of the County Court,
Orange County.

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator and Counsel to the Commission on Judicial Conduct ("the Commission"), and the Honorable William L. DeProspo ("Respondent"), who is represented in these proceedings by Deborah A. Scalise of Scalise & Hamilton, P.C., as follows:

1. Respondent has been a Judge of the County Court, Orange County, since January 1, 2018. His current term expires on December 31, 2027.
2. Respondent was served with a Formal Written Complaint dated July 26, 2022, containing five charges of misconduct. The charges alleged that in the course of presiding over five emergency applications brought in Family Court matters by unrepresented petitioners who were seeking temporary orders of protection and other relief, Respondent was disrespectful, disparaging, sarcastic and otherwise discourteous toward them, in both words and tone of voice. In four

of those matters the petitioners were women, and in the fifth the petitioner was a man. The events in question occurred in October 2019, May 2019, July 2018, and June 2018. The charges contained quotations from audio recordings and transcriptions in which, among other things:

- A. Respondent asked a petitioner, "What kind of a kook are you?"; belittled her concern about missing school in order to be in court; said "everything that you told me was bullshit"; and told the petitioner to "get your ass out of bed and get here at 9:00 in the morning" or her petition would be dismissed and she could "ask the director [of your school] to protect you."
- B. Respondent said to another petitioner: "So listen, why should I give you an order of protection . . . if you keep going back to this guy? . . . You went looking for him. You got into the car, okay, and you obviously want to be with him because you keep going back to him."
- C. Respondent said to a third petitioner; "So, three weeks before you found out that he had another honey on the side, were you afraid of him? . . . Oh, you were? Well, then what were you with him for then?"

3. Respondent enters into this Stipulation in lieu of filing an Answer to the Formal Written Complaint.

4. Respondent has tendered his resignation as a judge, effective at the close of business on March 31, 2023. A copy of his resignation letter is appended as Exhibit I. Respondent affirms that he will vacate judicial office as of March 31, 2023.

5. Pursuant to Section 47 of the Judiciary Law, the Commission has 120 days from a judge's resignation to complete proceedings and, if it so determines,

render and file a determination that the judge should be removed from office.

Pursuant to Article VI, section 22(h) of the Constitution, a judge who is removed from office "shall be ineligible to hold other judicial office."

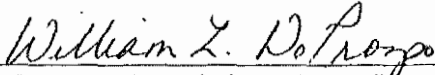
6. Respondent affirms that, upon vacating his judicial office, he will neither seek nor accept judicial office at any time in the future.

7. Respondent understands that, should he abrogate the terms of this Stipulation and hold any judicial position at any time, the present proceedings before the Commission will be revived and the matter will proceed to a hearing before a referee.

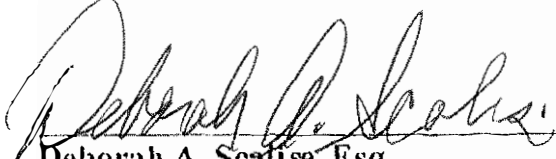
8. Upon execution of this Stipulation by the signatories below, this Stipulation will be presented to the Commission with the joint recommendation that the matter be concluded, by the terms of this Stipulation, without further proceedings.

9. Respondent waives confidentiality as provided by Section 45 of the Judiciary Law, to the extent that (1) this Stipulation will become public upon being signed by the signatories below, and (2) the Commission's Decision and Order regarding this Stipulation will become public.

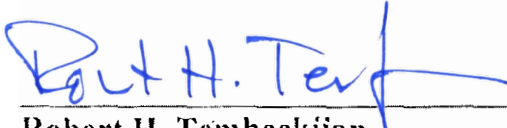
Dated: 1/11/2023


Honorable William L. DeProspo
Respondent

Dated: 1/13/23


Deborah A. Sealise, Esq.
Sealise & Hamilton, P.C.
Attorney for Respondent

Dated: January 13, 2023


Robert H. Tembeckjian
Administrator & Counsel to the Commission
(Mark Levine, Melissa DiPalo, and Adam
Kahan, Of Counsel)

STATE OF NEW YORK
ORANGE COUNTY SUPREME AND COUNTY COURTS

285 Main Street
Goshen, NY 10924
(845) 476-3459
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Honorable William L. DeProspero
County Court Judge

January 11, 2023

Via Email: [REDACTED]@nycourts.gov

Hon. Tamiko Amaker
Acting Chief Administrative Judge
New York State Unified Court System
25 Beaver Street
New York, NY 10004

RE: Notice of Retirement

Dear Judge Amaker:

This is to advise you that I have decided to retire from my position as a Judge of the Orange County Court as of March 31, 2023. It has been my honor and privilege to serve the citizens of Orange County over the past five years.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

William L. DeProspero
Hon. William L. DeProspero, J.C.C.