



RECEIVED

15 NOV 17 PM 12:55

JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE
AND
DISABILITY COMMISSION

Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission

JUDGE JOYCE WILLIAMS WARREN
CHAIRMAN

*323 Center Street • Suite 1060
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-1050 • Fax: (501) 682-1049
E-Mail: jddc@arkansas.gov*

DAVID J. SACHAR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PRESS RELEASE

POINT OF CONTACT: DAVID SACHAR

PHONE: 501-682-1050

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 17, 2015

The Arkansas Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission today announced the filing of Formal Charges against Cross County District Court Judge Joseph Boeckmann. A Statement of Allegations containing the charges follows this Press Release.

Judge Boeckmann will be formally served with charges and given thirty (30) days to respond. The judge is entitled to a hearing before the Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission, wherein all allegations must be proven by clear and convincing evidence. All future pleadings in this case will be public information.

Executive Director David J. Sachar will be present to provide information regarding the allegations and schedule of litigation at 3:00 p.m. in the JDDC Conference Room, at 323 Center, Suite 1060, Little Rock, Arkansas. Phone inquiries may be addressed to Executive Director Sachar or Deputy Director, Emily White.

STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS
JDDC CASE No. 14-310, 312, 313, 314

It is alleged that Judge O. Joseph Boeckmann, Jr. of the Cross County District Court, by the conduct indicated below, is subject to sanctions pursuant to A.C.A. §16-10-410(b)(4), for the commission of conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice and pursuant to A.C.A. §16-10-410(b)(5), and for willful violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

PREAMBLE

[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 Code 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.

CANON 1

A JUDGE SHALL UPHOLD AND PROMOTE THE INDEPENDENCE, INTEGRITY, AND IMPARTIALITY OF THE JUDICIARY, AND SHALL AVOID IMPROPRIETY AND THE APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY.

RULE 1.1: Compliance with the Law

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

RULE 1.2: Promoting 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.

RULE 1.3: Avoiding Abuse of the Prestige of Judicial Office

A judge shall not abuse the prestige of judicial office to advance the personal or economic interests of the judge or others, or allow others to do so.

CANON 2

A JUDGE SHALL PERFORM THE DUTIES OF JUDICIAL OFFICE IMPARTIALLY, COMPETENTLY, AND DILIGENTLY.

RULE 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 the judge's person and extrajudicial activities.

RULE 2.2: Impartiality and Fairness

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

RULE 2.3: Bias, Prejudice and Harassment

(A) A judge shall perform the duties of judicial office, including administrative duties, without bias or prejudice.

(B) A judge shall not, in the performance of judicial duties, by words or conduct manifest bias or prejudice, or engage in harassment, and shall not permit court staff, court officials, or others subject to the judge's direction and control to do so.

RULE 2.4: External Influences on Judicial Conduct

(B) A judge shall not permit family, social, political, financial, or other interests or

relationships to influence the judge's judicial conduct or judgment.

(C) A judge shall not convey or permit others to convey the impression that any person or organization is in a position to influence the judge.

RULE 2.5: Competence, Diligence, and Cooperation

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

(B) A judge shall cooperate with other judges and court officials in the administration of court business.

RULE 2.8: Decorum, Demeanor, and Communication with Jurors

(A) A judge shall require order and decorum in proceedings before the court.

(B) A judge shall be patient, dignified, and courteous to litigants, jurors, witnesses, lawyers, court staff, court officials and others with whom the judge deals in an official capacity, and shall require similar conduct of lawyers, court staff, court officials and others subject to the judge's direction and control.

RULE 2.11: Disqualification

(A) A judge shall disqualify himself or herself in any proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned including but not limited to the following circumstances:

(1) The judge has a personal bias or prejudice concerning a party or a party's lawyer or personal knowledge of facts that are in dispute in the proceeding.

RULE 2.16: Cooperation with Disciplinary Authorities

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

(B) A judge shall not retaliate, directly or indirectly, against a person known or suspected to have assisted or cooperated with an investigation of a judge or a lawyer.

CANON 3

A JUDGE SHALL CONDUCT THE JUDGE'S PERSONAL AND EXTRAJUDICIAL ACTIVITIES TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF CONFLICT WITH THE OBLIGATIONS OF JUDICIAL OFFICE.

RULE 3.1: Extrajudicial Activities in General

A judge may engage in extrajudicial activities, except as prohibited by law or the Code. However, when engaging in extrajudicial activities a judge shall not:

- (A) participate in activities that will interfere with the proper performance of the judge's judicial duties;*
- (B) participate in activities that will lead to frequent disqualification of the judge;*
- (C) participate in activities that would appear to a reasonable person to undermine the judge's independence, integrity or impartiality;*
- (D) engage in conduct that would appear to a reasonable person to be coercive;*
- (E) make use of court premises, staff, stationary, equipment, or other resources, except for incidental use for activities that concern the law, the legal system, or the administration of justice, or unless such additional use is permitted by law.*

RULE 3.5: Use of Nonpublic Information

A judge shall not intentionally disclose or use nonpublic information acquired in a judicial capacity for any purpose unrelated to the judge's judicial duties.

RULE 3.13: Acceptance and Reporting of Gifts, Loans, Bequests, Benefits, or Other Things of Value

(A) A judge shall not accept any gifts, loans, bequests, benefits, or other things of value, if acceptance is prohibited by law or would appear to a reasonable person to undermine the judge's independence, integrity or impartiality.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

1. **Kimberly Warmath, R.N., Arkansas Department of Human Services Investigator for Adult Protective Services, Complainant in JDDC Case No. 14-310.**
2. **Companion Complaints filed by Family Members of Luther and Winifred Sigman, Harriet Gold, Martha Dixon and Barri Copete in JDDC Case No. 14-312, 313 and 314.**

Compliance with the Law, Promoting Confidence in the Judiciary, Abuse of Prestige of the Judicial Office, Refusal to Disqualify, Engaging in Extrajudicial Activities That Create Conflicts with Judicial Office

*

Upon information and belief, the factual allegations referenced below may violate one or more provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct, as referenced in the preceding pages. Brevity requires the facts be stated one time. Relevant Code citations may be repeated for reference.

JDDC #14-310 et al., refers to the allegations, based on recorded statements of in-court proceedings and documents, out of court relationships and documents, wherein the judge is alleged to have improperly acted with undignified and discourteous temperament toward litigants, acted with bias and prejudice toward litigants, and acted in a personal, extrajudicial capacity with litigants before him which would interfere with the proper performance of his judicial duties and should have led to frequent disqualification, as a result of the nature of the relationships he maintains with criminal and traffic defendants before Cross County District Court. The allegations include the following:

1. O. Joseph Boeckmann, Jr. (*hereinafter referred to as "Boeckmann"*) is a part time district court judge in the First Judicial District, serving Cross County, Arkansas and has served in this capacity since January 1, 2009. Complainant, Kimberly Warmath (*hereinafter referred to as "Warmath"*), is an investigator for the Adult Protective Services Division of Arkansas Department of Human Services. Complainants, Harriet Gold, Martha Dixon, and Barri Copete, (*hereinafter referred to as "Sigman Family"*) are heirs of or next of kin of Luther and Winifred Sigman, clients of Wynne Elder Care, LLC.

2. Boeckmann was admonished by the Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission (*hereinafter referred to as "JDDC"*), in JDDC Case #2009-308, on March 18, 2011 for conduct involving members of the Avellino family in and around Cross County, Arkansas. In the above referenced admonishment Boeckmann promised to be mindful of Canon 1.2 which mandates that judges 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*" and Canon 2.11 which states that "*[a] judge shall disqualify himself or herself in any proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned...*"
3. On September 25, 2014 Boeckmann reduced a \$50,000.00 monetary bond of criminal defendant Crystal Avellino, in State of Arkansas v. Crystal Avellino, to an "OR" bond, being released on her own recognizance. On September 25, 2014, Crystal Avellino was charged by the State of Arkansas with three (3) felony counts of Theft of Property and three (3) felony counts of Abuse of an Endangered or Impaired Person. Crystal Avellino is the biological sister of Anthony Avellino and Joseph Avellino. Anthony Avellino is the former client of Boeckmann prior to January 1, 2009, the former employee of Boeckmann, who Boeckmann admits he fired at some point prior to June 1, 2015, and the former intimate partner of Boeckmann. Both Anthony Avellino and Joseph Avellino have had multiple charges before Cross County District Court since Boeckmann was elected judge. Crystal Avellino is also the biological mother of Boeckmann's niece, a child she had with Boeckmann's nephew, Charles "Chuck" Carter.
4. During the time Crystal Avellino worked with Luther and Winifred Sigman, she was employed by Boeckmann's biological sister, Paulette McClanahan, who is the manager and organizer of Wynne Elder Care, LLC. Carolyn Carter, (Chuck Carter's mother) another one of Boeckmann's biological siblings is also an officer of Wynne Elder Care, LLC. Wynne Elder Care, LLC, provided in home caretaking services to the Sigmans by and through their employee, Crystal Avellino, from February 2014 through approximately June 2014. Boeckmann is also a financial contributor to the LLC, regularly writing checks in excess of several thousand dollars each year to

Wynne Elder Care. In August of 2014, Complainant Warmath was an investigator for the Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Aging and Adult Services. Warmath, together with investigator Mike Archer, conducted the criminal investigation into Crystal Avellino's relationship with the Sigmans, which led to the felony charges against her.

5. During multiple stages of Warmath's investigation of Crystal Avellino, she heard from witnesses who were relatives of Boeckmann who manage, operate or otherwise control Wynne Elder Care, LLC, that "*my brother is Judge Boeckmann.*" Specifically, witnesses reported to Warmath that she "*would not answer any other questions until she and they talked to the judge.*" Boeckmann allowed either overtly or implicitly, family members to use his judicial position to attempt to influence a criminal investigation.
6. Since approximately 2001, Boeckmann has maintained an intimate, sexual relationship with Anthony Avellino, the brother of Crystal Avellino. Boeckmann evaded reporting this relationship to the JDDC through the investigation of JDDC#2009-308. Boeckmann remained the officiating judge over Anthony Avellino's Cross County District Court cases since January 1, 2009. Boeckmann remained officiating judge over Crystal Avellino's Cross County District Court cases since January 1, 2009. Boeckmann remained officiating judge over Joseph Avellino's Cross County District Court cases since January 1, 2009. Specifically, Boeckmann stated to the JDDC, in writing, dated June 1, 2015, that he has had no dealings with Anthony Avellino since "he was fired for stealing," admitting that prior to the time of employment termination, Anthony Avellino worked for Boeckmann in some capacity. Cross County District Court records show Boeckmann served as officiating judge over Anthony Avellino's district court cases, criminal citations of TR-14-2142, TR-14-2143 and TR-14-2144 in January 2015. Boeckmann served as officiating judge over Crystal Avellino's criminal citations for TR-14-248 on March 3, 2014.
7. Regarding Boeckmann's other family members, Boeckmann stated in his response to the JDDC dated June 1, 2015 that "there are no cases" involving his nephew Charles

“Chuck” Carter. Cross County District Court records show Boeckmann served as officiating Judge over Chuck Carter’s criminal citations of TR-14-895 and TR-14-1700 in June of 2014. Carter appears to have paid his fine for each citation and the bond amounts were forfeited without the need for his appearance.

8. Boeckmann engages in the courtroom practice of awarding community service to certain litigants based on gender. These “*substitutionary sentences*” are offered by Boeckmann to male litigants who may be able to perform community service type work at Boeckmann’s home or perform the work and report to Boeckmann at his home, pursuant to Boeckmann’s desires. The “work” usually consisted of picking up cans either alongside city roads in Wynne, or actually picking up cans at Boeckmann’s residence, wherein Boeckmann would photograph the buttocks of the men as they were bending to retrieve the garbage. Multiple male litigants have been photographed by Boeckmann during these “community service” type sentences. Boeckmann maintained these photographs of male litigants’ buttocks in his home for his own personal use. In addition to the illegal sentences, Boeckmann has used his judicial status to form relationships, personal and sexual, with certain male litigants. Boeckmann has engaged in a consistent pattern of seeking out young Caucasian male litigants before Cross County District Court for the purpose of forming personal, sexual relations with the litigants, thus creating a self-imposed conflict of interest for himself in his role as Cross County District Court Judge. Boeckmann’s method of operation is to gain access to Caucasian male litigants, most of whom range between 18-35 years of age, because of their traffic or criminal citations before Cross County District Court. Boeckmann has allowed certain male litigants to linger after court and receive instructions on where and how these “*substitutionary sentences*” shall be conducted. Court staff received little to no information regarding when or how these sentences are completed. Boeckmann has contacted male litigants on their personal telephones, or has given litigants his personal telephone numbers, and requested they contact him to present their “*trash pick up*” requirements at either his office or his home. Upon the litigant presenting himself to Boeckmann’s home or office, he then solicited sexual relations with these young men in exchange for reductions of or

dismissals of their court fines and costs. Record of these sentences is not recorded on the docket, therefore court personnel have no record of where the “*substitutionary sentence or community service*” is to be conducted, nor do they have a time frame for which the “*service*” or “*work*” is to be completed.

9. Occasionally, Boeckmann has recommended litigants follow him from the courtroom to learn about where and how these community service type sentences will be ordered. Boeckmann has called male litigants on their personal telephone numbers, offering community service if they presented themselves to his office or home, in lieu of receiving a fine or probation. Boeckmann has repeatedly engaged in this practice since taking the bench on January 1, 2009. Boeckmann has used his influence over the male litigants, as a judge, to insinuate compliance by the litigants for his personal and sexual desires. Examples include but are not limited to the following:

a. Victim No. 1, (K.B.), appeared before Boeckmann at Cross County District Court in 2010 as a result of misdemeanor charges through Wynne Police Department. K.B., entered into a personal relationship with Boeckmann as a result of guilty pleas before the court where he was sentenced to fines in addition to court costs. K.B. “heard” from Victim No. 3, (A.A.) that he could contact Boeckmann directly regarding help K.B. needed in his “financial situation,” or obligations owed to the courts. As a result of K.B.’s contact, Boeckmann entered into a relationship with K. B. where he would allow Boeckmann to photograph him clothed and unclothed in exchange for money. K. B. alleges that since 2010 Boeckmann paid him for the photographs he posed for with checks and cash. This relationship between Boeckmann and K.B. was consistent every few months from 2010 through 2015. Additionally, K.B. assisted Boeckmann in removing pornographic images from the computers in his home. The last time K.B. engaged in personal relations with Boeckmann was in February 2015, when he got into trouble for failing to appear before the court. K.B. contacted Boeckmann’s cell phone requesting help and Boeckmann indicated he was unable or scared to help him this time. Over the five (5) years K.B. allowed Boeckmann

to photograph him, Boeckmann had a personal relationship with K.B. while Boeckmann sat in judgment over cases in Cross County District Court where K.B. was a defendant/litigant. Boeckmann used his position of judicial authority as Cross County District Court Judge to advance his own personal interests with K. B. This conduct, if true, may violate multiple provisions of the Code as referenced above.

- b. Victim No. 2, (R.G.), appeared before Boeckmann at Cross County District Court in 2012 as a result of traffic citations he received through the Arkansas State Police. R.G. entered a guilty plea at some point after May 19, 2012 in Cross County District Court to Boeckmann. Upon entering a guilty plea, Boeckmann cleared the fine amounts and in the middle of the courtroom requested R.G. provide him with his telephone number. Approximately one week later, R.G. received his first telephone call from Boeckmann where he requested that R.G. pick up cans for his "*community service*" and bring the cans he retrieves to Boeckmann's office. R.G. asked what he was supposed to do after completing this and Boeckmann refused to go into any detail with him on the telephone, but merely requested they meet at Boeckmann's office. R.G. complied with these requests and appeared at Boeckmann's office. Boeckmann requested his secretary leave the area of the office where he and R.G. were and then Boeckmann requested R.G. bend over. R.G. denied the request and left the office immediately. Sometime after this encounter, Boeckmann again contacted R.G. on his telephone and requested he again pick up cans but this time, deliver them to Boeckmann's home. R.G. has never complied with this request. R.G. is not aware of any outstanding warrants for his nonpayment of fines in Cross County District Court, nor has R.G. appeared before Cross County District Court to answer for noncompliance of his "*community service*" obligations. District Court Records indicate R.G. completed his community service for the May 19, 2012 sentence, his fine was \$105.00 with \$120.00 in costs and fees for a Drinking on Highway, Public, charge and the docket bears Boeckmann's signature as the Judge officiating. Court records indicate R.G. received a Failure to Pay Fine

charge of \$170.00 on December 1, 2013, which the docket indicates was suspended and again Boeckmann's name appears on the docket as the Judge officiating. R.G. has never been forced to pay this fine. Court records indicate R.G. received a Failure to Pay Fine charge of \$170.00 on June 1, 2014, which the docket indicates was dismissed by the Sheriff and again Boeckmann's name appears on the docket as the judge officiating. R.G. has never been forced to pay this fine, and there are no outstanding warrants for nonpayment at this time. This conduct, if true, may violate multiple provisions of the Code as referenced above.

- c. Victim No. 3, (A.A.), first became acquainted with Boeckmann in 2001 when A.A. was arrested for methamphetamine charges in Cross County. A.A. remained in the custody of the Cross County jail for a couple of days before his girlfriend contacted Boeckmann regarding representing A.A. and assisting in helping to get his bond lowered to get him out of jail. During the first encounter with A.A.'s girlfriend, Boeckmann requested to know if "A.A. was good looking," before agreeing to represent him. Upon the bond being lowered, A.A. had to appear at Boeckmann's law office where he proposed A.A. "work" for him at his residence in Wynne. A.A. agreed and appeared for work immediately. From this date in 2001 until sometime in 2011 Boeckmann entered into a working relationship with A.A. where Boeckmann paid him for assistance at his personal residence as well as his rental properties throughout Wynne. In addition to the employer/employee relationship Boeckmann created with A.A., Boeckmann entered into a personal, sexual relationship with A.A. that lasted until approximately 2011. At one point during the relationship, A.A. actually had personal belongings and a "room" where he slept and stayed from approximately 2006 through 2011, at Boeckmann's personal residence. This personal, sexual relationship Boeckmann entered into with A.A. carried over beyond the time he took the bench as Cross County District Court Judge on January 1, 2009. Boeckmann paid A.A. in a multitude of ways for his "service" while he served as Cross County District Court Judge. Boeckmann allowed members of A.A.'s family to reside in property he owned. Boeckmann purchased two (2) vehicles for A.A. and allowed him to

drive them. Boeckmann purchased a boat for A.A. and allowed him open access to it. Additionally, Boeckmann paid A.A. rent for his family, public utilities bill, water services bill and purchased groceries for them as long as his personal, sexual relationship with A.A. remained active. Boeckmann engaged in spanking A.A. regularly, both for Boeckmann's sexual pleasure or as for punishment to A.A. for his criminal conduct. A.A. received money for this conduct if the spankings were sought for Boeckmann's pleasure. Additionally, Boeckmann photographed A.A. after the spankings. Boeckmann reduced A.A.'s sister's bond (signed by Circuit Judge Ben Storey) from \$50,000.00 dollars to an OR bond in September of 2014. Boeckmann caused A.A. to work for "*friends*" of his in Wynne and outside Wynne, some of whom are fellow colleagues in the legal community. This conduct, if true, may violate multiple provisions of the Code as referenced above.

10. Banking records from Cross County Bank and First National Bank of Wynne reflect Boeckmann gave money to multiple lawyers in Wynne who have consistently appeared before him while representing litigants before Cross County District Court. Boeckmann also gave money to public officials in Wynne, whose agencies are responsible for criminal investigations of individuals appearing before Cross County District Court and criminal defendants with cases before Boeckmann's court. Boeckmann also gave money to the Wynne District Court, since he has served as District Court Judge, on behalf of litigants he had a personal and employment relationship with. The memo lines of the checks written on Boeckmann's firm account, read the names of criminal defendants with fines due to the Cross County District Court or Wynne District Court. Many of these same criminal defendants are persons Boeckmann has also employed at some time in the past or has had a personal relationship with, both in his time prior to becoming Cross County District Court Judge and subsequent to his time as a judge.

Compliance with the Law, Promoting Confidence in the Judiciary

Upon information and belief, Boeckmann is alleged to possess pornographic images of young males under the age of eighteen (18) on personal computers maintained within his residence.

Witnesses report viewing pornographic material involving prepubescent males on a laptop Boeckmann owned. Pending computer analysis could expand or lessen the scope of this allegation. This conduct, if true, may violate multiple provisions of the Code as referenced above.

Performing Duties of Judicial Office Without Bias

Upon information and belief, Boeckmann is alleged to provide no consistency in sentencing. Specifically, Boeckmann sentences male litigants charged with the same traffic citation or misdemeanor criminal citation as a female or minority litigant, to less of a fine or community service than females charged with the same or similar offenses. Court staff is unable to understand Boeckmann's sentencing strategy. Boeckmann sentences depending on the gender of the litigant.

Discourteous, Impatient and Undignified Judicial Demeanor

Upon information and belief, Boeckmann is alleged to engage in cursing at litigants before the bench in front of patrons of the District Court. Boeckmann's demeanor is impatient and undignified with certain litigants, particularly minorities and women. Boeckmann regularly yells and screams at minority litigants and women before the court, even calling some "stupid" from the bench. Boeckmann also patronizes court staff, calling some "stupid" from the bench, in front of patrons of the court. Boeckmann overlooks nonpayment of fines and costs for young men he has personal relationships with, but patronizes, yells and screams at those litigants who are minorities or female, with whom he does not have an intimate personal relationship with.

Retaliation Against Witnesses Cooperating with Disciplinary Authorities

Kenneth Pickett filed a complaint with the JDDC against Boeckmann on November 5, 2009, JDDC #09-308. This was the same complaint where Boeckmann was admonished for his conduct with members of the Avellino family. After the matter ended in a Letter of Admonishment for his conduct, Boeckmann engaged in an active and open pattern of retaliation against Officer Pickett which ultimately affected his ability to perform his duties as a law enforcement officer in Cross County, Arkansas, and lead to him leaving his job of twenty (20)

years and relocating his family to another state. All the while, Boeckmann maintained an intimate, personal, sexual relationship with males and was less than candid in his statements to the JDDC in 2009. Boeckmann has been less than candid describing his true relationship with males appearing before his court since 2009, until now. Boeckmann's actions of retaliation against Pickett violate his obligations as a judge according to Rule 2.16 and desecrate public confidence in the judiciary as a whole.

The totality of Boeckmann's conduct referenced in the paragraphs above exhibit an attitude of bias, prejudice, partiality and a general lack of fairness against certain persons who enter into his courtroom. Additionally, it exhibits an appearance of impatient, undignified and discourteous demeanor and it exhibits the appearance of impropriety in his day to day dealings between family members, their employees, his personal relationships and his courtroom. Finally, the allegations exhibit possible violations of criminal law in the State of Arkansas.

The allegations referenced above are not all inclusive and are being fully developed through these and additional witnesses, as well as through documentation from multiple sources. Staff continues its efforts to interview all related witnesses and gather records as necessary.

CONCLUSION

The above allegations, if proven, will be willful misconduct by clear and convincing evidence, and would constitute conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Relevant Canons include: Rule 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.8, 2.11, 2.16, 3.1, 3.5 and 3.13. The judge may be subject to any of the sanctions listed in Rule 9(I) or (J) of the Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission.

Pursuant to Rule 8F of the Rules of Procedure of the JDDC, Judge Boeckmann has thirty (30) days to respond to these allegations and file an answer with the JDDC. A formal public disciplinary hearing will be scheduled and conducted pursuant to Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission.

Prepared by Emily White, Deputy Executive Director, at the direction of Investigative Panel No. 2 of the JDDC.