



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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PRESS RELEASE

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NEW CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

BOSTON, MA (April 29, 2009) -- Massachusetts' Commission on Judicial Conduct announced today that it has elected new officers. The new Chairman is Stephen E. Neel, Associate Justice of the Superior Court. The Commission's new Vice Chairman is Renée M. Landers, Esquire, Associate Professor and Faculty Director of the Health and Biomedical Law Concentration at Suffolk University Law School. Many thanks are extended to the out-going Chairman, Robert J. Guttentag, for five years at the helm of the Commission.

Judge Neel became a member of the Commission in November of 2004 and its Vice Chairman in November 2006. Judge Neel has been an Associate Justice of the Superior Court since 1992. He was previously a partner at Goodwin, Procter & Hoar and at Herrick & Smith, where he specialized in complex civil litigation. Judge Neel is a graduate of Amherst College and Harvard Law School. He has served as Chair of the Superior Court's Civil Committee and Civil Steering Committee, as Regional Administrative Justice for Civil Business in Middlesex

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County, and as a member of the Supreme Judicial Court's Standing Committee on Dispute Resolution.

Professor Landers was appointed to the Commission in 2004. She was the President of the Boston Bar Association for 2003-2004, after having chaired its Diversity Committee and its Gender and Justice Committee. She has served as chair and president of the Board of Directors of the Big Sister Association of Greater Boston, and currently serves as a Trustee of PBS affiliate WGBH and as President of the Board of the Shady Hill School. A graduate of Radcliffe College and Boston College Law School, Ms. Landers has been an associate and counsel at Ropes & Gray and was an assistant professor at Boston College Law School. She served the federal government as a Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Office of Policy Development and as Deputy General Counsel of the Department of Health and Human Services. For the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, she has served as Deputy Secretary of State and Acting Supervisor of Public Records. She is a member of the American Bar Association and a past president of the Board of Overseers of Harvard University.

The Commission on Judicial Conduct investigates complaints of misconduct against state judges, pursuant to Mass. General Laws chapter 211C. The Commission is made up of three judges appointed by the Supreme Judicial Court, three attorneys appointed by the Chief Justice for Administration and Management, and three lay people appointed by the Governor. Members serve non-renewable terms of six years. More information is available at the Commission's website: www.mass.gov/cjc.

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