



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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PRESS RELEASE

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**DISTRICT COURT JUDGE REPRIMANDED BY
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

BOSTON, MA (August 31, 2012) - The Commission on Judicial Conduct yesterday reprimanded Circuit Justice for Region 1 of the District Court, Brian R. Merrick, for repeatedly engaging in conduct while sitting in Orleans District Court that failed to follow well-established procedural requirements, specifically his failing to engage criminal defendants in legally sufficient plea colloquies in connection with minor motor vehicle criminal offenses. Judge Merrick has acknowledged that his plea colloquies were legally insufficient and no longer conducts such plea hearings in this manner.

The Commission's statute and Rules are available on the Commission's website:
www.mass.gov/cjc.

