



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 15, 2002

JUDGE DAVID E. HARRISON RETIRES FROM BENCH

BOSTON, MA (February 15, 2002) - The Commission on Judicial Conduct and Judge David E. Harrison have reached an agreement concerning the allegations of misconduct that were pending before the Commission.

Judge Harrison, First Justice of the Gloucester District Court, has agreed to retire from the bench in resolution of the Commission's Complaint No. 2001-12. The Complaint was initiated by the Commission and investigated by Special Counsel. Judge Harrison has admitted that he received, unsolicited, a confidential document of the Commission regarding a separate complaint that was then pending before the Commission against Judge Harrison, thus interfering with a confidential Commission proceeding, and that he read the document rather than returning it to the Commission or notifying the Commission that he had received it. The Commission's proceedings and documents relating to them are subject to the confidentiality provisions of G. L. c. 211C, § 6, and Commission Rule 5. In this matter, there are no allegations of misconduct by Judge Harrison while performing his judicial duties.

Judge Harrison's retirement and admission have led to the closing of Complaint No. 2001-12.

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