

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION**

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

**DAVID CURLIN, FAMILY COURT JUDGE
51ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

PUBLIC REPRIMAND

David Curlin is a Family Court Judge for Kentucky's 51st Judicial Circuit consisting of Henderson County. Judge Curlin has waived formal proceedings and has agreed to this disposition.

This public reprimand follows the Kentucky Supreme Court's April 24, 2025, Opinion and Order granting consensual discipline and suspending Judge Curlin from the practice of law for one year, with ninety days to serve, retroactive to his prior indefinite suspension effective September 29, 2023. Judge Curlin will remain on probation for one year following the entry of that Order.

The disciplinary proceedings arose because Judge Curlin failed to respond to two bar complaints related to conduct before his election to judicial office, and failed to answer formal Charges issued by the Inquiry Commission. Despite signing for those Charges in person, Judge Curlin did not file timely responses as ordered by the Supreme Court. His noncompliance with multiple directives from the Supreme Court and the Kentucky Bar Association necessitated his suspension and temporary disqualification from judicial duties.

In its April 24, 2025 Opinion and Order accepting a motion for consensual discipline, the Supreme Court noted Judge Curlin's prolonged failure to respond to lawful disciplinary authority, while in judicial office, including after the Supreme Court ordered him to do so. The Commission finds that this conduct by Judge Curlin while in judicial office constituted

judicial misconduct and reflects a failure to meet the standards of conduct expected of members of the judiciary.

The Commission concludes that Judge Curlin violated SCR 4.300, including:

- **Rule 1.2**, which requires judges to act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary, and to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety;
- **Rule 2.16(A)**, which obligates judges, in part, to cooperate fully with disciplinary agencies.

Based on the foregoing conduct, Judge Curlin is hereby publicly reprimanded. In rendering its disposition, the Commission duly considered that Judge Curlin fully cooperated in the matter.

Date: 8/22/2025

R. Michael Sullivan
R. MICHAEL SULLIVAN, CHAIR

Agreed to:

David Curlin
Hon. David Curlin, Family Court Judge