COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

JULIE MUTH GOODMAN, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIVISION 4

FORMAL PROCEEDINGS DOCKET ENTRIES

	Date of Filing		
1.	November 2, 2026	-	Notice of Formal Proceedings and Charges
2.	November 11, 2026	-	Order and Notice of Temporary Suspension Hearing
3.	November 12, 2026	-	Order for Extension to File Answer
4.	November 16, 2026	-	Amended Notice of Hearing
5.	November 20, 2026	-	Motion to Continue Temporary Suspension Hearing
6.	November 20, 2026	-	Order Denying Continuation of Temporary Suspension Hearing
7.	November 23, 2026	-	Motion for More Definite Statement
8.	November 23, 2026	-	Order Denying in Part/Pretrial
9.	November 25, 2026	-	Judge Goodman's Answer

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

JULIE MUTH GOODMAN, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIVISION 4

NOTICE OF FORMAL PROCEEDINGS AND CHARGES

Notice is hereby given of the initiation of formal proceedings under Rule 4.180 of Rules of the Supreme Court. At the times set out in this Notice, you were Circuit Court Judge for Kentucky's 22nd Judicial Circuit, Division 4, Fayette County. The charges are as follows:

Count I

You presided over *Commonwealth v. Domonick Deonte Jones*, Fayette Circuit Court 23-CR-0394. At a hearing on the Commonwealth's motion to resentence on March 8, 2024, after the Commonwealth advised that Mr. Jones had filed a lawsuit against you, you stated that you would recuse. You then announced that you would enter a judgment of probation nunc pro tunc, stated on the record that the judgment would be void because you "couldn't do it as a matter of law," and entered the judgment nunc pro tunc to December 7, 2023, the date you rendered your original oral sentence in court.

Mr. Jones had sued you, and you recognized on the record that you could not continue to preside over his case. And yet, you failed to recuse yourself immediately, and nevertheless entered a substantive judgment in the case after determining that you were disqualified. In No. 2024-CA-0436-MR, the Court of Appeals vacated the judgment as an illegal sentence, noting that you had stated on the record that the sentence was illegal and had backdated it.

Your actions violate SCR 4.020(1)(b)(i) and constitute misconduct in office. Furthermore, your actions violate SCR 4.300 and the relevant portions of the following Rules of the Code of Judicial Conduct:

- **Rule 1.1** which requires a judge to comply with the law, including the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- **Rule 1.2** which requires a judge 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 2.2** which requires a judge to uphold and apply the law, and to perform all duties of judicial office fairly and impartially.
- **Rule 2.11(A)** which requires a judge to disqualify himself or herself in any proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned, including where the judge has a personal bias or prejudice concerning a party or a party's lawyer, or personal knowledge of facts in dispute.

Count II

You have refused to follow binding decisions of Kentucky's appellate courts, both by disregarding controlling precedent and by declining to comply with an appellate court's direction in the very case before you.

In *Gregory Simpson v. Abigail Caudill, Warden*, Fayette Circuit Court 23-CI-02878, you granted a writ of habeas corpus on January 18, 2024, and released Mr. Simpson from the Blackburn Correctional Complex with approximately twenty-one years remaining on a forty-two-year sentence. On June 5, 2024, the Court of Appeals reversed your decision and directed you to deny the petition. You entered an order denying the petition on June 25, 2024, but on July 10, 2024, you stayed that order and permitted Mr. Simpson to remain out of custody. The Warden was required to petition the Court of Appeals for a writ, No. 2024-CA-0847-OA, and that court twice directed you, on July 25 and July 31, 2024, to remand Mr. Simpson to custody.

In *Huff v. University of Kentucky*, Fayette Circuit Court 23-CI-1684, following a hearing on September 15, 2023, you denied the University of Kentucky's motion to dismiss on grounds of sovereign and governmental immunity. You did so notwithstanding the Supreme Court of Kentucky's holding in *Withers v. University of Kentucky*, 939 S.W.2d 340 (Ky. 1997), that the University is entitled to that immunity, a decision the Supreme Court had not overruled and that you, as a trial court, were bound to follow. You stated on the record that you were declining to follow *Withers* because you wanted the issue reversed. On November 22, 2024, in 2023-CA-1423, the Court of Appeals reversed your ruling.

Your actions violate SCR 4.020(1)(b)(i) and constitute misconduct in office. Furthermore, your actions violate SCR 4.300 and the relevant portions of the following Rules of the Code of Judicial Conduct:

- **Rule 1.1** which requires a judge to comply with the law, including the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- **Rule 1.2** which requires a judge 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 2.2** which requires a judge to uphold and apply the law, and to perform all duties of judicial office fairly and impartially.
- **Rule 2.5(A)** which requires a judge to perform judicial and administrative duties competently and diligently.

Count III

You have abandoned your role as a neutral and impartial arbiter, substituting your own judgment for that of the parties, the grand jury, and the petit jury. You have independently investigated matters outside the record, relied on your personal knowledge and extrajudicial research in place of evidence, advocated for defendants, and assumed functions reserved to other participants in the judicial process.

In *Commonwealth v. Cornell Denmark Thomas II*, Fayette Circuit Court 21-CR-00336, a prosecution for murder and leaving the scene of an accident, defendant moved to dismiss for lack of the requisite mental state. Although no party alleged any impropriety by the prosecutor, you *sua sponte* undertook your own investigation of the grand jury proceedings and of the charging practices of the Fayette Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, without notice to the parties or an opportunity for them to be heard. You relied on extrajudicial evidence that neither party offered, including statistics within your personal knowledge and "a growing body of evidence linking short-duration acute psychotic episodes with COVID-19 infections," although there was no proof the defendant ever had COVID-19.

You decided before trial that the defendant lacked the requisite mental state, a question reserved for the jury. Although you concluded that the defendant had likely experienced prior psychotic episodes, you did not comply with the involuntary hospitalization procedure that KRS 504.030(1) requires when a defendant is found to lack criminal responsibility. And, in finding selective prosecution, you relied on your personal knowledge of statistics that were not in evidence and on your own account of your years on the bench observing the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, which the Court of Appeals described as "an inadmissible brand of judicial testimony, unsworn, untested by cross-examination."

On December 13, 2023, you dismissed the indictment, finding *sua sponte* that the Commonwealth had engaged in selective prosecution and ascribing racially discriminatory motives to it without any evidence in the record. On December 19, 2025, in 2024-CA-0023-MR, the Court of Appeals vacated your order and reinstated the indictment. It held that you had "conducted a judicial ambush," ignored the party-presentation doctrine, and appeared

to embrace "an animus of unknown origin toward the Fayette Commonwealth's Attorney." It further held that, "[u]nder the mere guise of supervisory authority, with no prompting by the parties, and disregarding the separation of powers," you "rejected the grand jury's independent decision to indict and encroached upon the prosecutor's duty to carry out a core Executive Branch function." The Supreme Court of Kentucky granted discretionary review on September 16, 2026.

In *Commonwealth v. James Harvey Hendron*, Fayette Circuit Court 18-CR-1084, after a jury found Mr. Hendron guilty of murder, you issued an order on June 26, 2024, finding "prosecutorial misconduct" and overturned the conviction. On June 13, 2025, in 2025-CA-0836, the Court of Appeals reversed and remanded with instructions to reinstate the verdict The Court held that you abused your discretion in ordering a new trial, engaging in a "Monday-morning quarterback approach" which contradicted "well-established precedent", wherein you "not only ignored the law on this matter, but also impermissibly encroached on the province of the jury as finder of fact when [you] engaged in an independent review of the case in contravention of our jury system."

In *Ain v. University of Kentucky*, Fayette Circuit Court 23-CI-3018, on April 4, 2024, you expressed that the Court felt compelled to be the "sole protector" of Dr. Ain, praised him as "exceptional in his practice," and stated that "there isn't anybody more qualified nationally than Dr. Ain," while criticizing counsel for failing to recognize the perceived attacks against him. Despite expressing these views, you did not recuse yourself. On February 14, 2025, the Supreme Court of Kentucky entered an order disqualifying you from the case.

You also intervened in criminal proceedings by advocating for defendants and challenging the Commonwealth's charging and plea decisions. In *Commonwealth v. Taquean*

Jamal Brown, 18-CR-1390-002, on September 9, 2020, you refused an agreed guilty plea based on your disagreement with the Commonwealth's deferred prosecution policy, accused the Commonwealth of selective prosecution, and told the prosecutor, "you are the system." Similarly in *Commonwealth v. Larry Dunaway*, 20-CR-412, on June 30, 2022, you characterized the burglary charge as "offensive," rejected the proposed plea agreement and restitution because the victim was Walmart, and admonished the prosecutor to "consider your audience." In *Commonwealth v. Alashia Brown*, 23-CR-405, on May 17, 2023, you questioned a detective on behalf of the defense and accused the Commonwealth of targeting "women, and usually black women." In *Commonwealth v. Domonick Deonte Jones*, 23-CR-0394, despite learning that the defendant was statutorily ineligible for Drug Court, you continued advocating for that disposition and criticized the Commonwealth for refusing to facilitate it.

Your actions violate SCR 4.020(1)(b)(i) and constitute misconduct in office. Furthermore, your actions violate SCR 4.300 and the relevant portions of the following Rules of the Code of Judicial Conduct:

- **Rule 1.1** which requires a judge to comply with the law, including the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- **Rule 1.2** which requires a judge 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 2.2** which requires a judge to uphold and apply the law, and to perform all duties of judicial office fairly and impartially.
- **Rule 2.5(A)** which requires a judge to perform judicial and administrative duties competently and diligently.
- **Rule 2.6(A)** which requires a judge to accord to every person who has a legal interest in a proceeding, or that person's lawyer, the right to be heard according to law.

- **Rule 2.9(C)** which prohibits a judge from investigating facts in a matter independently, and requires a judge to consider only the evidence presented and any facts that may properly be judicially noticed.

- **Rule 2.11(A)** which requires a judge to disqualify himself or herself in any proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned, including where the judge has a personal bias or prejudice concerning a party or a party's lawyer, or personal knowledge of facts in dispute.

Count IV

You have engaged in intemperate, undignified, and discourteous conduct toward prosecutors, attorneys, and crime victims appearing before you. Rather than maintaining the patience, dignity, and courtesy required of judicial office, you have demeaned attorneys, impugned their integrity, interrupted and refused to hear them, and displayed hostility and insensitivity toward crime victims.

First, you have demeaned prosecutors and other attorneys, impugned their integrity and competence, and denied them a meaningful opportunity to be heard. For example, in *Commonwealth v. Gaige Jessie Phillips*, 19-CR-1053-001, on April 6, 2023, you accused the Commonwealth of continually overindicting, interrupted the prosecutor, and invoked your experience as "an ex-prosecutor" to challenge prosecutorial decisions. In *Commonwealth v. Charnelle D. Coffey*, 13-CR-0692-001, on October 26, 2023, you blamed the Commonwealth for creating a problem, refused to permit a response, and disparaged the prosecutors by stating that "the three people that are talking here have always lived in a very different world than the woman you are dealing with." In *Commonwealth v. Michael Lee Gilbert*, 23-CR-01047, on November 30, 2023, you mocked the prosecutor's change of surname, stating, "Gosh, she changes names more than I change jobs." You have also accused the Commonwealth's prosecutors, in your orders and from the bench, of prosecutorial misconduct. You have also accused the Commonwealth, from the bench and in your orders,

of prosecutorial misconduct without evidentiary support. The Court of Appeals has consistently rejected your accusations, and you never reported any of the prosecutors you accused to the Kentucky Bar Association. Accusations of serious professional misconduct that you neither substantiated nor reported served only to impugn the integrity of the prosecutors appearing before you.

Second, you have displayed hostility toward crime victims, minimized their experiences, and blamed them for the circumstances surrounding the crimes committed against them or their families. For example, in *Commonwealth v. Darryl Lewis Russell*, 22-CR-460, on August 3, 2022, you blamed the victim's mother for her son's death, stating that she "let her children stay in this situation." In *Commonwealth v. Rafael Antonio Okoye Easter*, 22-CR-123, on December 14, 2023, you asked a victim, "why are you bothering to speak," cut her off, and, when she described the deaths of family members that year, told her, "when I hear other people use that as an excuse to not do things, I have a hard time when I am sitting here still doing my job. . . . I don't want anybody speaking on that kind of issue."

Your actions violate SCR 4.020(1)(b)(i) and constitute misconduct in office. Furthermore, your actions violate SCR 4.300 and the relevant portions of the following Rules of the Code of Judicial Conduct:

- **Rule 1.2** which requires a judge 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 2.3(A) and (B)** which require a judge to perform the duties of judicial office without bias or prejudice, and prohibit a judge, in the performance of judicial duties, from manifesting bias or prejudice by words or conduct.
- **Rule 2.6(A)** which requires a judge to accord to every person who has a legal interest in a proceeding, or that person's lawyer, the right to be heard according to law.

- **Rule 2.8(B)** which requires a judge to 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.

Count V

After the Commission notified you of the specific allegations against you by letter dated June 5, 2026, you personally confronted attorneys of the Fayette Commonwealth's Attorney's Office whom you believed had provided information for the complaint.

On June 16, 2026, you texted former Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Mary Tobin, who then had a case pending before you as a special prosecutor, and asked her to call you. During the call, you asked whether she knew of the complaint, questioned her about *Commonwealth v. Rosales-Gonzales*, No. 22-CR-660, a case identified in the Commission's June 5 letter, and indicated that she was responsible for that part of the complaint.

On or about June 29, 2026, after a probation violation hearing, you came down from the bench and told Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Brad Bryant, off the record, that you were surprised he had filed a complaint with this Commission and, when he denied it, that "it reads like you filed it."

On or about June 29, 2026, after taking a guilty plea, you asked First Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Amanda Naish to come to your chambers, where you accused her of filing the complaint, pressed her about internal meetings of her office regarding the impeachment proceedings, and said that you were glad your late sister, who had been Ms. Naish's first-grade teacher, was not alive to see this.

Your actions violate SCR 4.020(1)(b)(i) and constitute misconduct in office. Furthermore, your actions violate SCR 4.300 and the relevant portions of the following Rules of the Code of Judicial Conduct:

- **Rule 1.2** which requires a judge 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 2.8(B)** which requires a judge to 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.

- **Rule 2.16(B)** which prohibits a judge from retaliating, directly or indirectly, against a person known or suspected to have assisted or cooperated with an investigation of a judge or a lawyer.

Count VI

You have failed to hold your regularly scheduled motion dockets with increasing frequency, delaying the resolution of cases assigned to you. Your criminal motion hour is regularly scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and your civil motion hour for 10:00 a.m. on Fridays. You cancelled 13.7% of your available criminal motion dockets in 2022, 21.2% in 2023, 32% in 2024, 22.4% in 2025, and 47% (16 of 34) from January through August 28, 2026. You cancelled 18.3% of your available civil motion dockets in 2022, 16.3% in 2023, 29.4% in 2024, 22.4% in 2025, and 34% (11 of 32) over the same 2026 period.

Cases on a cancelled docket are not automatically reset, and the parties must seek new dates. You also set status hearings four to five months apart. On June 25, 2026, following the cancellation of prior dockets, 106 cases were set on your criminal docket, and your next criminal docket was not held until July 16, 2026. These delays have postponed arraignments, pleas, and other proceedings, including for defendants held in custody. Your actions violate SCR 4.020(1)(b)(i) and constitute misconduct in office. Furthermore, your actions violate SCR 4.300 and the relevant portions of the following Rules of the Code of Judicial Conduct:

- **Rule 2.5(A)** which requires a judge to perform judicial and administrative duties competently and diligently.

- **Rule 2.7** which requires a judge to hear and decide matters assigned to the judge, except when disqualification is required.

The jurisdiction of the Judicial Conduct Commission in this matter is under SCR 4.020(1)(b)(i) and (v), and (1)(c) which read in pertinent part as follows:

> (1) Commission shall have authority:
>
> (b) To impose the sanctions, separately or collectively of (1) admonition, private reprimand, public reprimand or censure; (2) suspension without pay or removal or retirement from judicial office, upon any judge of the Court of Justice or lawyer while a candidate for judicial office, who after notice and hearing the Commission finds guilty of any one or more of the following:
>
> (i) Misconduct in office.
>
> (v) Violation of the code of Judicial Conduct, Rule 4.300.
>
> (c) After notice and hearing, to remove a judge whom it finds to lack the constitutional statutory qualifications for the judgeship in question.

For your information, the Commission wishes to call your attention to the following Supreme Court Rule:

RULE 4.180 FORMAL PROCEEDINGS

> If the Commission concludes that formal proceedings should be initiated, it shall notify the judge. [Sh]e may file an answer within 15 days after service of the notice. Upon the filing of [her] answer, or the expiration of time for so filing, the Commission shall set a time and place for the hearing and shall give reasonable notice thereof to the judge.

Please mail your answer to: Ms. Laura Hendrix, Executive Secretary, Kentucky Judicial Conduct Commission, P.O. Box 4266, Frankfort, Kentucky 40604-4266. You may also email a courtesy copy to laurahendrix@kycourts.net.

Please note that Judge Glenn Acree recused from any consideration of this matter.

November 2, 2026.

Carroll M. Redford

CARROLL M. "TRIP" REDFORD, III, CHAIR

I hereby certify that copy hereof was served on Julie Muth Goodman, Circuit Court Judge, by serving the same to her attorneys, Robert K. McBride, Esq. MCBRIDE LAW, PLLC, 2600 Burlington Pike, P.O. Box 230, Burlington, KY 41005, rkm@mcbrideatlaw.com, and James Frazier, Esq., McBrayer PLLC, 201 East Main Street, Suite 900, Lexington, KY 40507, jfrazier@mcbrayerfirm.com this 2nd day of November, 2026.

Laura Hendrix

LAURA HENDRIX, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

JULIE MUTH GOODMAN, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIVISION 4

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to SCR 4.020(1)(a)(ii) it is hereby ORDERED that a hearing will be held on the 11th day of December, 2026, at the time of 9:30 a.m., in the 2nd Floor Circuit Courtroom of the Jefferson County Judicial Center, 700 West Jefferson St., Louisville, Kentucky, as to whether it will be in the best interest of justice that Judge Goodman be suspended temporarily from acting in her official capacity as a judge and from the performance of her duties, without affecting her compensation, until final adjudication of the pending formal proceedings.

Carroll M. Redford III, Chair

Judge Glenn Acree recused from any consideration of this matter.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of this Order has this November 11, 2026, been served via electronic and first-class mail upon the following:

Robert K. McBride (rkm@mcbrideatlaw.com)
MCBRIDE LAW, PLLC
2600 Burlington Pike
P.O. Box 230
Burlington, KY 41005

Jeffrey C. Mando (JMando@adamsattorneys)
Adams Law, PLLC
40 W. Pike St.
Covington, KY 41011

James Frazier (jfrazier@mcbrayerfirm.com)
McBrayer PLLC
201 East Main Street, Suite 900
Lexington, KY 40507

Judge Julie M. Goodman at her home address

Laura Hendrix

LAURA H. HENDRIX
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:
JULIE MUTH GOODMAN, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIVISION 4

ORDER FOR EXTENSION

Upon consideration of the request by Judge Goodman for an extension of time to file an Answer to the Notice of Formal Proceedings and Charges, pursuant to SCR 4.200, it is by the Commission,

ORDERED that the time for filing an Answer be and it is hereby extended. The Answer shall be filed on or before November 25, 2026.

November 12, 2026
Date

Carroll M. Redford III, Chair

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of this Order has this November 12, 2026, been served via electronic and first-class mail upon the following:

Robert K. McBride
rkm@mcbrideatlaw.com
MCBRIDE LAW, PLLC
2600 Burlington Pike
P.O. Box 230
Burlington, KY 41005

Olivia F. Amlung
OAmlung@adamsattorneys.com
Adams Law, PLLC
40 W. Pike St.
Covington KY 41011

James Frazier
jfrazier@mcbrayerfirm.com
McBrayer PLLC
201 East Main Street, Suite 900
Lexington, KY 40507

Laura Hendrix

LAURA H. HENDRIX
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

JULIE MUTH GOODMAN, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIVISION 4

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the temporary suspension hearing scheduled for the 11th day of December, 2026, at the time of 9:30 a.m., will now be held in Courtroom 702, 7th Floor of the Jefferson County Judicial Center, 700 West Jefferson St., Louisville, Kentucky.

Carroll M. Redford III, Chair

Judge Glenn Acree recused from any consideration of this matter.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of this Order has this November 16, 2026, been served via electronic and first-class mail upon the following:

Robert K. McBride
rkm@mcbrideatlaw.com
MCBRIDE LAW, PLLC
2600 Burlington Pike
P.O. Box 230
Burlington, KY 41005

James Frazier
jfrazier@mcbrayerfirm.com
McBrayer PLLC
201 East Main Street, Suite 900
Lexington, KY 40507

Olivia F. Amlung
OAmlung@adamsattorneys.com
Adams Law, PLLC
40 W. Pike St.
Covington, KY 41011

Judge Julie M. Goodman at her home address

Laura Hendrix

LAURA H. HENDRIX
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

JULIE MUTH GOODMAN, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIVISION 4

MOTION TO CONTINUE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION HEARING

Judge Julie Muth Goodman respectfully requests the Commission to continue the Temporary Suspension Hearing currently set for December 11, 2026, in the Jefferson County Judicial Center in Louisville, Kentucky. As grounds for this motion, Judge Goodman states:

The Commission unilaterally scheduled a temporary suspension hearing in this matter by order dated November 11, 2026, later amended by order dated November 16, 2026. One of co-counsel for Judge Goodman, Amy Cubbage, who will defend Judge Goodman in the temporary suspension hearing, was engaged on November 17, and she is unavailable on December 11 for the hearing. In light of the substantial interests at issue in the hearing, Judge Goodman requests that the hearing be rescheduled at a time convenient for her counsel to be present to present her defenses.

Judge Goodman further requests that the hearing be held in or near Fayette County. Judge Goodman wishes to call witnesses in her defense, all of whom will be located in or near Fayette County. Requiring witnesses to travel to Louisville for a hearing is an unreasonable imposition on the witnesses' time and may hamper Judge Goodman's ability to present witnesses and other evidence in her own defense. Some of the expected witnesses are attorneys with busy court schedules, some of whom are expected to be in Fayette Circuit Court on December 11 for one of the last regularly-scheduled Friday civil motion hours before the Christmas holiday.

Others may have similar client commitments. Potential witnesses will need adequate notice to arrange coverage for court appearances or other client obligations.

Wherefore, based on the above, Judge Goodman respectfully requests that the Commission continue the December 11, 2026 hearing to a time convenient for all parties, including her counsel, within or near Fayette County.

Respectfully submitted,

TACHAU MEEK PLC
Amy D. Cubbage (KBA #86902)

101 South 5th Street, Suite 3611
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
Telephone: (502) 238-9900
acubbage@tachaulaw.com

and

Robert K. McBride (KBA #84702)
MCBRIDE LAW, PLLC
2600 Burlington Pike
P.O. Box 230
Burlington, KY 41005
rkm@mcbrideatlaw.com

Co-counsel for Judge Julie Muth Goodman

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing was served by first class and electronic mail on the following on November 20, 2026:

Laura H. Hendrix
Executive Secretary
Kentucky Judicial Conduct Commission
P.O. Box 4266
Frankfort, KY 40604-4266l
laurahendrix@kycourts.net

Olivia F. Amlung
Adams Law, PLLC
40 W. Pike Street
Covington, KY 41011
OAmlung@adamsattorneys.com



Co-counsel for Judge Julie Muth Goodman

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

JULIE MUTH GOODMAN, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIVISION 4

ORDER DENYING MOTIONS TO CONTINUE AND TO CHANGE LOCATION OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION HEARING

Pursuant to SCR 4.020(1)(a)(ii), written notice of the temporary suspension hearing scheduled for December 11, 2026, at the time of 9:30 a.m., at the Jefferson County Judicial Center, 700 West Jefferson St., Louisville, Kentucky was provided by the Judicial Conduct Commission to Judge Goodman and her counsel on November 11, 2026. Upon the hiring of additional counsel, Hon. Amy Cubbage, and withdrawal of Hon. Jim Frazier, Judge Goodman requested to continue the hearing for the convenience of her newly hired additional counsel and to move the hearing to "within or near Fayette County" for the convenience of some of her unidentified witnesses.

A motion for leave for a witness to appear electronically via Zoom for the temporary suspension hearing stating the grounds and justification for the need to appear remotely may be presented to the JCC no later than 5:00 p.m. Monday, December 7, 2026.

Having considered the motions, it is **ORDERED** that the motions be, and hereby are, denied, subject to the potential use of Zoom for otherwise unavailable witnesses as noted.

Carroll M. Redford III, Chair

Judge Glenn Acree recused from any consideration of this matter.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of this Order has this November 20, 2026, been served via electronic and first-class mail upon the following:

Robert K. McBride
rkm@mcbrideatlaw.com
MCBRIDE LAW, PLLC
2600 Burlington Pike
P.O. Box 230
Burlington, KY 41005

Olivia F. Amlung
OAmlung@adamsattorneys.com
Adams Law, PLLC
40 W. Pike St
Covington, KY 41011

Hon. Amy D. Cubbage
acubbage@tachaulaw.com
Tachau Meek
101 S. Fifth Street, Suite 3600
PNC Tower
Louisville, KY 40202-3120

James Frazier
jfrazier@mcbrayerfirm.com
McBrayer PLLC
201 East Main Street, Suite 900
Lexington, KY 40507

Laura Hendrix

LAURA H. HENDRIX
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

JULIE MUTH GOODMAN, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIVISION 4

MOTION FOR A MORE DEFINITE STATEMENT

Judge Julie Muth Goodman moves the Commission to issue a more definite statement of the basis for the proposed temporary suspension in accordance with SCR 4.210(1) and SCR 4.170(4), with that notice being within a reasonable time frame in advance of a hearing so that she has an adequate time to prepare her defense. As grounds for this motion, Judge Goodman states:

The Commission has ordered Judge Goodman to appear for a hearing to determine "whether it will be in the best interest of justice that Judge Goodman be suspended temporarily from acting in her official capacity as a judge and from the performance of her duties" as an elected Constitutional officer. 11/11/2026 Order. The Commission's Order, however, provides Judge Goodman no notice of the charges on which it intends to seek her temporary suspension. Judge Goodman is entitled to a more definite statement giving her fair notice of the individual charges at issue in the temporary suspension hearing, including the identity of the person or persons who filed a complaint underlying the charges, with that notice being within a reasonable time frame in advance of a hearing so that she has an adequate time to prepare her defense.

SCR 4.210(1) provides:

> In proceedings involving removal or retirement, a judge shall have the right and reasonable opportunity to defend against the charges by the introduction of evidence, to be represented by counsel, and to examine and cross-examine witnesses. The judge shall also have the right to the issuance of subpoenas for

> attendance of witnesses to testify or produce books, papers, and other evidentiary matter.

Furthermore, SCR 4.170(4) provides, in relevant part:

> [T]he Commission shall afford the judge under investigation an opportunity to examine all factual information, including the name of the complainant if relevant . . . .

These procedural protections are a constitutional requirement. *See, e.g.*, *Goodman v. Nemes,* --- S.W.3d ---, 2026 WL 3135123, *5 (Ky. April 6, 2026) ("'At its most basic level, procedural due process ensures that one is not unfairly deprived of his life, liberty, or property without receiving a hearing, adequate notice, and a neutral adjudicator'"); *Withrow v. Larkin*, 421 U.S. 35, 56-57 (1975) (administrative bodies blending investigatory and adjudicative functions are only constitutionally permissible so long as fundamental due process rights are respected). *Cf.* SCR 3.165 (requiring an affidavit setting forth specific facts to support a petition to the Supreme Court for temporary suspension of an attorney from the practice of law).

Neither the original November 11, 2026 Order requiring Judge Goodman to appear for a temporary suspension hearing, nor the amended Order issued on November 16, 2026, give Judge Goodman notice of the individual charges under which the Commission seeks her temporary suspension. Neither has Judge Goodman been provided with underlying factual information, including the names of complainants. Without this information, Judge Goodman cannot determine which witnesses and other evidence (including relevant impeachment evidence) she may need to marshal in her defense.

Furthermore, Judge Goodman is entitled to reasonable notice of the charges sufficiently in advance of the temporary suspension hearing to allow her to adequately prepare her defense, which may include the need to issue subpoenas to compel hearing attendance or the production of books, papers or other evidentiary matter in her defense, in accordance with SCR 4.210(1).

Judge Goodman has a busy trial docket over the next two months, with trials scheduled as follows:

Week of November 20:	Four day criminal trial; Friday civil motion docket with heavy docket expected; two civil damages hearings
Week of December 7:	Three day criminal trial; Thursday criminal motion docket with at least 80 cases noticed; Friday civil motion docket with heavy docket expected
Week of December 14:	Three day civil and criminal trials both scheduled; Thursday criminal motion docket with heavy docket expected; Friday civil motion docket with heavy docket expected
Week of December 21:	Holiday week
Week of December 28:	Holiday week
Week of January 4:	Two day criminal trial; Thursday criminal motion docket with heavy docket expected as a result of holiday delays; Friday civil motion docket with heavy docket expected as a result of holiday delays
Week of January 11:	Five day civil trial; Thursday criminal motion docket; Friday civil motion docket
Week of January 18:	Two day criminal trial; Thursday criminal motion docket; Friday civil motion docket
Week of January 25:	Three day criminal trial; Thursday criminal motion docket; Friday civil motion docket

Counsel and the parties have, in some instances, waited months for a trial date, and are managing their schedules as a result. Judge Goodman is committed to convening trials, hearings, and motion dockets as scheduled, so that counsel and the parties are not placed in the unacceptable position of being required to obtain a new trial or hearing date, which could be several months later. Requiring Judge Goodman to cancel long-scheduled trials or hearings so that she may

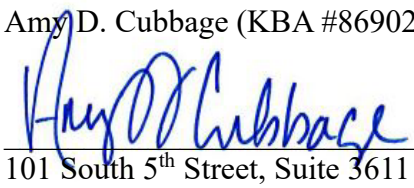
prepare her defense – when the Commission has not yet stated the factual basis underlying its demand that she be temporarily suspended – is unfair to counsel and litigants.

In addition, Judge Goodman completed a five day civil bench trial in a constitutional challenge on November 20, 2026. The parties have requested the opportunity to file post-hearing briefs, to be filed 30 days after the conclusion of trial. It would be unfair to the parties, counsel, and witnesses who provided testimony over those five days if the Commission rushed to convene a temporary suspension hearing before Judge Goodman can receive post-trial briefs and prepare an order in that matter.

Judge Goodman therefore moves that the Commission provide a more definite statement of the basis for the proposed temporary suspension in accordance with SCR 4.210(1) and SCR 4.190(4), in sufficient time in advance of any temporary suspension hearing to allow Judge Goodman to prepare a defense. Judge Goodman further moves that any temporary suspension hearing be scheduled no earlier than February 2027, so that Judge Goodman may fulfill her commitments to counsel and litigants appearing in her Court.

Respectfully submitted,

TACHAU MEEK PLC
Amy D. Cubbage (KBA #86902)



101 South 5th Street, Suite 3611
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
Telephone: (502) 238-9900
acubbage@tachaulaw.com

and

Robert K. McBride
McBride Law, PLLC
2600 Burlington Pike
P.O. Box 230
Burlington, KY 41005
rkm@mcbrideatlaw.com

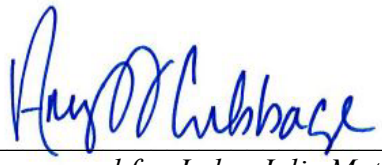
Co-counsel for Judge Julie Muth Goodman

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing was served by first class and electronic mail on the following on November 23, 2026:

Laura H. Hendrix
Executive Secretary
Kentucky Judicial Conduct Commission
P.O. Box 4266
Frankfort, KY 40604-4266l
laurahendrix@kycourts.net

Olivia F. Amlung
Adams Law, PLLC
40 W. Pike Street
Covington, KY 41011
OAmlung@adamsattorneys.com



Co-counsel for Judge Julie Muth Goodman

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

JULIE MUTH GOODMAN, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIVISION 4

ORDER GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART MOTION FOR MORE DEFINITE STATEMENT

Judge Julie Muth Goodman has moved the Commission to issue a more definite statement of the basis for setting the temporary suspension hearing scheduled for December 11, 2026.

A review of the record reflects as follows: The Commission's Notice of Formal Proceedings and Charges was initiated and served on November 2, 2026. Contained within the twelve pages are the Charges set out in six (6) counts alleging some twenty-four (24) violations of the Rules of Judicial Conduct. Judge Goodman has been afforded an opportunity to examine all factual information, including the name of the complainant(s), if relevant, and she has been afforded an opportunity to furnish the Commission any information that she desired bearing on the investigation. See SCR 4.170(4). The initial factual file consisting of 104 items was delivered to Judge Goodman's counsel on September 4, 2026. This was supplemented on October 2, 2026 (1 item), November 2, 2026 (1 item), November 16, 2026 (3 items), and November 19, 2026 (1 item). Judge Goodman was provided an opportunity for response both after the initialfactual file was provided to her and after it was supplemented.

Judge Goodman is further given an opportunity under SCR 4.180 to file an answer to the Charges and she has been granted a requested extension to file her Answer from November 17, 2026, to November 25, 2026. (See Order, November 12, 2026).

Judge Goodman argues that she "is entitled to a more definite statement giving her fair notice of the individual charges at issue in the temporary suspension hearing, including the identity

of the person or persons who filed a complaint underlying the charges." Motion, p. 1. The record reflects that Judge Goodman has been provided "fair notice" of the complaints, the factual information and the Charges. Notice of complaints were provided on March 27, 2026 and June 5, 2026; the entire factual file (that includes the identity of persons who filed the complaints underlying the Charges) was initially provided on September 4, 2026, and supplemented as provided above; and the Notice of Formal Proceedings and Charges was served on November 2, 2026, which included a "definite statement" of Charges set forth under six (6) counts.

Nothing in the Rules prevents counsel from conferring prior to the December 11, 2026 temporary suspension hearing to discuss the presentation of proof and defense, to coordinate the presentation of witnesses or to otherwise strive for the orderly and efficient presentation of the matters to be heard by the Commission on December 11, 2026.

To assist in the orderly and efficient presentation of evidence at this hearing, and to provide Judge Goodman with more focus for the temporary suspension hearing matters, it is ORDERED that the parties exchange and file with the Commission no later than Friday, December 4, 2026, their respective witness and exhibit lists, and by December 9, 2026, any agreed stipulations of facts or admissibility of exhibits.

The issuance of subpoenas may be requested of the Executive Secretary, Laura Hendrix via email to LauraHendrix@kycourts.net.

Having considered the motion, it is **ORDERED** that the motion be, and hereby is, granted in part and denied in part consistent with the provisions of this Order.

Carroll M. Redford III, Chair

Judge Glenn Acree recused from any consideration of this matter.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of this Order has this November 23, 2026, been served via electronic and first-class mail upon the following:

Robert K. McBride
rkm@mcbrideatlaw.com
MCBRIDE LAW, PLLC
2600 Burlington Pike
P.O. Box 230
Burlington, KY 41005

Olivia F. Amlung
OAmlung@adamsattorneys.com
Adams Law, PLLC
40 W. Pike St
Covington, KY 41011

Hon. Amy D. Cubbage
acubbage@tachaulaw.com
Tachau Meek
101 S. Fifth Street, Suite 3600
PNC Tower
Louisville, KY 40202-3120

Laura Hendrix

LAURA H. HENDRIX
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

JULIE MUTH GOODMAN, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIVISION 4

ANSWER OF JUDGE JULIE MUTH GOODMAN

Comes now Judge Julie Muth Goodman ("Respondent") and submits her Answer to the Notice of Formal Proceedings and Charges ("Notice") issued by the Judicial Conduct Commission ("JCC") on November 2, 2026, as set forth below. The charges, which are not set forth in numerical paragraphs (as required by CR 10.02), are responded to as follows:

COUNT I

1. Respondent admits presiding over the matter of *Commonwealth v. Domonic Deonte Jones*, 23-CR-0394. Respondent further admits she accepted a guilty plea, recommended by the Commonwealth's Attorney, and sentenced the Defendant to probation with the agreement of both the Commonwealth and the Defense.
2. Respondent denies the facts alleged to the extent that they are factually inaccurate as to what occurred and omit relevant facts and law.
3. Respondent denies the allegations of misconduct as the law did not mandate her recusal, no recusal was sought by the defendant, and the law does not require a judge to recuse because she is sued by a party to an action. Furthermore, issuance of an order nunc pro tunc does not result in a subsequent action but is "now for then" allowing a previous ruling to be memorialized as to its original date. *Hoffman v. Shuey*, 2 S.W.2d 1049, 1051 (Ky.1928).
4. It should also be noted that the Court of Appeals opinion upon which the JCC relies was before two of its members, Judges Acree and Cetrulo, and was authored by Judge

Acree.

5. The Respondent denies any sentence or paragraph not expressly admitted above, including but not limited to the allegations of misconduct.

COUNT II

6. Respondent admits presiding over *Gregory Simpson v. Abigail Caudil, Warden*, 23-CI-02878, and that over three years ago she presided over *Huff v. University of Kentucky*, 23-CI-1684.

7. Respondent denies the facts alleged to the extent that they are factually inaccurate as to what occurred, and omit relevant facts and law.

8. With regard to *Simpson*, Respondent denies the allegations of misconduct in that the Respondent in making her decision followed *Kimmel v. Commonwealth,* 671 S.W.3d 230, 239 (Ky. 2023) because her ruling was made in good faith and based on her understanding of the law at that time. Furthermore, there is no evidence in the record that the Respondent's citation of *Kimmel* was unreasonable, done in bad faith, or was egregious. While the Court of Appeals granted the writ of habeas corpus, it denied the motion to revoke Simpson's bond, and when the discrepancy was brought to its attention, the Court of Appeals entered a new order correcting its oversight.

9. With regard to *Huff*, Respondent denies the allegations of misconduct in that the Respondent in making her decision followed *Branham v. Rock* 449 S.W.3d 741, 752 (Ky. 2014) which was decided nearly twenty years after *Withers v. Univ. of Ky.*, 939 S.W.2d 340 (Ky. 1997). In *Branham* the Supreme Court held "[i]n light of the ever changing landscape of the provision of medical care, with hospitals becoming more and more monolithic and monopolistic, and with funding for all medical care providers coming from both the private and public sectors, there may come a time for us to revisit *Withers*."

10. A review of the record establishes that Judge Goodman in following *Branham* was acting reasonably, in good faith, and that the Kentucky Supreme Court may very well have agreed with her analysis as it had accepted discretionary review. However, the parties settled the case before the Kentucky Supreme Court could decide whether to uphold the Court of Appeals decision or the decision of Judge Goodman.

11. It should also be noted that the Court of Appeals opinion upon which the JCC relies as authored by its member, Judge Cetrulo.

12. The Respondent denies any sentence or paragraph not expressly admitted above, including but not limited to the allegations of misconduct.

COUNT III

13. Respondent admits presiding over *Commonwealth v. Cornell Denmark Thomas II*, 21-CR-00336, *Commonwealth v. James Harvey Hendron*, 18-CR-1084, *Ain v. University of Kentucky*, 23-CI-3018, *Commonwealth v. Taquean Jamal Brown*, 18-CR-1390-002, *Commonwealth v. Larry Dunaway*, 20-CR-412, and *Commonwealth v. Alashia Brown*, 23-CR-405.

14. Respondent first addresses the allegations in *Thomas* and *Hendron* and denies the facts alleged to the extent that they are factually inaccurate as to what occurred and are in violation of SCR 4.020(2). The complaint makes inaccurate statements regarding what occurred during the numerous hearings addressing *Thomas'* motion to dismiss and *Hendron's* motion for a new trial. The complete records of each case will establish otherwise.

15. The Respondent further states the Commission relies almost verbatim on language found in the *Thomas* Court of Appeals decision written by Judge Acree, a member of the JCC. The Court of Appeals decision is now before the Kentucky Supreme Court on discretionary

review and, by taking action regarding this matter, is usurping the power of the Kentucky Supreme Court. RAP 40; SCR 4.020(2). The JCC lacks jurisdiction over this matter as a result. It further violates the Respondent's Constitutional right to defend against such allegations. The Code of Judicial Conduct does not allow a Judge to publicly discuss or comment on a pending case, limiting Respondent's ability to defend this count.

16. The Respondent admits presiding over *Ain v. University of Kentucky* but denies any misconduct or having any bias towards the University of Kentucky. This was affirmed by the ruling of Deputy Chief Justice Robert Conley wherein he found no actual bias based on the Respondent's statements or actions. Respondent further denies the facts alleged to the extent that they are factually inaccurate as to what occurred and omits relevant facts and law. The Respondent further notes that *Ain* is still pending before the Fayette Circuit Court and Judge Goodman cannot fully defend herself under the Canons of Judicial Conduct.
17. The Respondent admits presiding over *Commonwealth v. Taquean Jamal Brown, Commonwealth v. Larry Dunaway*, and *Commonwealth v. Alashia Brown.*
18. The Respondent denies the facts alleged to the extent that they are factually inaccurate as to what occurred and omit relevant facts and law.
19. A review of the above style cases establishes that Judge Goodman followed the recommendations of the Commonwealth as to the resolution of each case. The record further establishes that Judge Goodman acted within her authority during the bond hearing and the sentencing in *Commonwealth v. Alashia Brown* and that Judge Goodman showed compassion to the mother of the deceased child. As to *Commonwealth v. Larry Dunaway,* Judge Goodman acted within her authority as mandated by the Kentucky Supreme Court in *Jones v. Commonwealth,* 382 S.W.3d 29 (2011), when she required the Commonwealth to

prove the amount of restitution before the guilty plea could proceed. As to *Commonwealth v. Taquean Jamal Brown,* the Complaint misstates what occurred during the Commonwealth's motion to revoke Brown's diversion only forty-five days after he entered the diversion program, a decision which is committed to the discretion of the Court. The discussion between Judge Goodman and Mr. Bryant makes it evident that, even as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, he was unaware how this new diversion program worked and that the policy needed to be reviewed. Following the discussion, Mr. Bryant withdrew the motion to revoke and Brown was allowed to enter drug court. Brown successfully completed drug court, and therefore the diversion program.

20. The Respondent denies any sentence or paragraph not expressly admitted above, including but not limited to the allegations of misconduct.

COUNT IV

21. Respondent admits presiding over *Commonwealth v. Gaige Jessie Phillips*, 19-CR-1053-001, *Commonwealth v. Charnelle D. Coffey*, 13-CR-0692-001, *Commonwealth v. Michael Lee Gilbert*, 23-CR-01047, *Commonwealth v. Darryl Lewis Russell*, 22-CR-460, and *Commonwealth v. Rafael Antonio Okoye Easter*, 22-CR-123.

22. Respondent denies the facts alleged to the extent that they are factually inaccurate as to what occurred, and omit relevant facts and law. In fact, as stated by the Commonwealth's Attorney at the impeachment hearing, her office warns victims about Judge Goodman, which results in victims who may be fearful of and unwilling to speak to the Court. By doing so, the Commonwealth undermines the rights of victims under Marsy's Law.

23. The Respondent denies any sentence or paragraph not expressly admitted above, including but not limited to the allegations of misconduct.

COUNT V

24. Respondent admits presiding over *Commonwealth v. Rosales-Gonzales*, No. 22-CR-660.

25. The Respondent denies any sentence or paragraph not expressly admitted above, including but not limited to the allegations of misconduct, including any allegations that Judge Goodmans retaliated directly or indirectly against any person known or suspected to have assisted or cooperated with an investigation of a judge or lawyer.

COUNT VI

26. Respondent denies the facts alleged to the extent that they fail to provide all relevant facts and misstates the law and results in selective prosecution.

27. In the last three years, Judge Goodman and other Fayette Circuit Court division dockets have been substantially equivalent, yet only Judge Goodman is accused of not doing her job. Additionally, the Notice fails to acknowledge that Judge Goodman had scheduled eighty trials in the last year, handled regular criminal and civil dockets, presided over serious civil and criminal trials, including: homicides, class actions, receiverships, medical malpractice, and cases involving constitutional issues.

28. The Respondent denies any sentence or paragraph not expressly admitted above, including but not limited to the allegations of misconduct.

FIRST DEFENSE

Counts I through VI of the Notice fail to state a claim within the Jurisdiction of the Judicial Conduct Commission.

SECOND DEFENSE

Certain of the Counts, those related to *Commonwealth v. Domonic Deonte Jones Commonwealth v. James Harvey Hendron, Commonwealth v. Cornell Denmark Thomas II,*

Huff v. University of Kentucky, and Ain v. University of Kentucky, have not been timely brought within the time period permitted in SCR 4.170, and should therefore be dismissed.

THIRD DEFENSE

Respondent states that the alleged conduct is not sanctionable and well-within the inherent powers of the Court.

FOURTH DEFENSE

Respondent states that all allegations based on *Commonwealth v. James Harvey Hendron* and *Commonwealth v. Cornell Denmark Thomas II* are not final, currently before the Supreme Court of Kentucky and therefore beyond the jurisdiction of the JCC.

FIFTH DEFENSE

Respondent states that all allegations based on *Huff v. University of Kentucky*, *Commonwealth v. James Harvey Hendron, Commonwealth v. Cornell Denmark Thomas II,* and *Gregory Simpson v. Abigail Caudill Warden,* are beyond the jurisdiction of the JCC as appeals were taken, which is the appropriate remedy, pursuant to SCR 4.020(2);

> Any erroneous decision made in good faith shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of the commission.

Similar decisions by other Fayette Circuit judges have been reversed or the judge has otherwise received instruction regarding erroneous decisions, which appropriately did not lead to JCC charges. *See, e.g.*, *Brown v. Com.* 723 S.W.3d 667 (Ky. 2025), and *Com. v. Jenkins,* 25-CR-827.

SIXTH DEFENSE

The Respondent further states affirmatively that any and all decisions made by her with respect to these matters were made in good faith in the exercise of her constitutional and

statutory authority and were not made for any improper purpose and are therefore not within the jurisdiction of the JCC.

SEVENTH DEFENSE

Respondent states that the Court has the inherent authority to inquire into the conduct of parties before it, including the Commonwealth Attorney's Office, to ensure the law is followed.

EIGHTH DEFENSE

Respondent states that it is an affirmative obligation of the Court to supervise the conduct of parties before it, including the Commonwealth Attorney's Office.

NINTH DEFENSE

The Respondent further states that the JCC process, to the extent that it does not afford the Respondent sufficient discovery, the compulsion of witnesses, and a neutral factfinder violates fundamental due process guaranteed by both the Kentucky and United States Constitutions.

TENTH DEFENSE

The Respondent further states that the JCC process concerning these matters has been violated as the Commission has failed to disclose the name or names of the complainant(s) as required by the Supreme Court, the Kentucky Constitution, and the JCC's own rules.

ELEVENTH DEFENSE

The Respondent further states affirmatively that this matter consists of an improper selective prosecution, in violation of the Equal Protection clause of the Fourteenth amendment improperly motivated by political processes and political, free-speech affiliations.

TWELTH DEFENSE

The Respondent further reserves each and every other defense available to her.

WHEREFORE, Respondent having answered the allegations, moves for the following:

1. Dismissal of the Notice and all allegations therein;

2. The assignment of a neutral hearing officer;

3. Dismissal of the charges and allegations over which the JCC does not have jurisdiction;

4. That any sanction, if entered (and it is clear from the evidence that none should be issued), be no more than the sanctions authorized by the Supreme Court in similar JCC matters;

5. That the Respondent be given the identity of the complainant(s), allowed proper discovery, subpoena power, and access to the entire JCC file, including all notes of the investigator, video recordings in their entirety, and any other documents relied upon by the investigator or the JCC; and

6. All other legal and equitable relief to which she is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

TACHAU MEEK PLC
Amy D. Cubbage (KBA #86902)

101 South 5th Street, Suite 3611
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
Telephone: (502) 238-9900
acubbage@tachaulaw.com

and

Robert K. McBride (KBA #84702)
MCBRIDE LAW, PLLC
2600 Burlington Pike
P.O. Box 230
Burlington, KY 41005
rkm@mcbrideatlaw.com

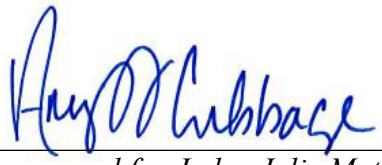
Co-counsel for Judge Julie Muth Goodman

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing was served by first class and electronic mail on the following on November 25, 2026:

Laura H. Hendrix
Executive Secretary
Kentucky Judicial Conduct Commission
P.O. Box 4266
Frankfort, KY 40604-4266l
laurahendrix@kycourts.net

Olivia F. Amlung
Adams Law, PLLC
40 W. Pike Street
Covington, KY 41011
OAmlung@adamsattorneys.com



Co-counsel for Judge Julie Muth Goodman