

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION**

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

**HOWARD KEITH HALL, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
DIVISION II, 35TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

ORDER SUSPENDING TEMPORARILY FROM THE PERFORMANCE OF JUDICIAL DUTIES

Howard Keith Hall is a Circuit Court Judge for Kentucky's 35th Judicial Circuit consisting of Pike County.¹

Pursuant to SCR 4.020(1)(a)(ii) the Judicial Conduct Commission shall have authority "to suspend temporarily from the performance of judicial duties, without affecting his/her compensation any judge against whom there is pending in any court of the United States an indictment or information charging him/her with a crime punishable as a felony."

On April 17, 2025, the Judicial Conduct Commission was made aware of the Indictment by the United States of America in case no. 3:25-cr-00005-GFVT-MAS filed in the Eastern District of Kentucky, Central Division at Lexington on April 17, 2025 against Howard Keith Hall who is presently Circuit Court Judge, Division II in Pike County, Kentucky. Judge Hall is charged by the United States with the commission of three (3) felony counts and a forfeiture allegation seeking a money judgment. The Indictment alleges events occurring when Judge Hall was County Attorney of Pike County during 2010-2020 and alleges claims of "a scheme and artifice to defraud and obtain money by materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises." The Indictment further states that the charges subject Hall to potential penalties of "not more than 20 years imprisonment" under counts

¹ Hall has been licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky since 10/26/1988, according to the Kentucky Bar Association website. His current bar roster address is 175 Main Street, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501. He has been a circuit court judge since January 1, 2021.

1-2 and “not more than 10 years imprisonment” under count 3, plus substantial monetary fines and restitution, if applicable.

Based on the foregoing Indictment, and pursuant to SCR 4.020(1)(a)(ii), Judge Howard Keith Hall is hereby suspended temporarily from the performance of judicial duties effective April 18, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. EDT, without affecting his compensation. During the temporary suspension, Judge Hall shall not use his judicial office at the Pike County Judicial Center, nor any other judicial resources. Judge Hall shall also forbear from using his secure courthouse access pass and shall turn in any access passes, keys, or credentials to court security while the suspension is in effect.

There being a quorum present, the decision of the Commission was unanimous.

Pursuant to SCR 4.130(1) and SCR 4.020(1)(a)(ii), this Order shall be public.

So Ordered,

Date:

April 18, 2025


R. MICHAEL SULLIVAN, CHAIR

Judge Coleman recused in this matter.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via regular mail and email as noted on this the 18th day of April, 2025, upon the following:

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