



NEW YORK STATE  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN  
ADMINISTRATOR & COUNSEL

CORNING TOWER, SUITE 2301  
EMPIRE STATE PLAZA  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12223

MARISA E. HARRISON  
PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICER

518-453-4600 518-299-1757  
TELEPHONE FACSIMILE  
[www.cjc.ny.gov](http://www.cjc.ny.gov)

## NEWS RELEASE

*August 10, 2021*

**Contact:**

***Marisa E. Harrison, Public Records Officer***  
*(518) 453-4614*

### **Town Justice in Genesee County Resigns While Under Investigation After Arrest for Endangering the Welfare of a Child**

John R. Duyssen, a Justice of the Leroy Town Court, Genesee County, resigned while under investigation by the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct.

The Commission apprised Judge Duyssen in January 2021, that it was investigating complaints arising from his arrest on criminal charges of harassment and endangering the welfare of a child, his invocation of his judicial office at the time of his arrest when he asked for a less restrictive Order of Protection to be recommended, and for his failure to comply with a court order, for approximately three months, to surrender all of his firearms.

The criminal charges were resolved with the judge consenting to a one-year comprehensive disposition plan monitored by the Wyoming County Department of Social Services, which he completed, and a court-ordered Adjournment in Contemplation of Dismissal.

Judge Duyssen, who left office on July 8, 2021, agreed never to seek or accept judicial office at any time in the future. The Commission accepted a stipulation to

that effect signed by the judge, his attorney and the Commission's Administrator and closed its investigation.<sup>1</sup>

Judge Duyssen waived the statutory provision of confidentiality applicable to Commission proceedings, to the limited extent that the stipulation and Commission's order accepting it and closing the case would be public.

Judge Duyssen, who is not an attorney, had been a Justice of the Leroy Town Court since 2018. His current term would have expired on December 31, 2021.

The stipulation and the Commission's order closing the case can be found on the Commission's website: [www.cjc.ny.gov](http://www.cjc.ny.gov).

### **Statement by Commission Administrator**

Commission Administrator Robert H. Tembeckjian made the following statement.

“Judges are obliged to respect the laws and rules they administer. Public confidence in the judiciary is shaken when a judge is charged with a serious offense and then fails to obey a court order to surrender firearms. Under the circumstances, Judge Duyssen's permanent departure from the bench is warranted.”

### **Statistics Relating to Prior Commission Decisions**

The Commission has accepted 109 such stipulations since the procedure was instituted in 2003.

Since 1978, the Commission has issued 278 determinations of admonition against judges in New York State, 339 determinations of censure and 175 determinations of removal.

The Court of Appeals has reviewed 101 Commission determinations. The Court accepted the Commission's sanctions in 85 cases (76 of which were removals, six were censures and three were admonitions). Of the remaining 16 cases, two sanctions were increased from censure to removal, and 13 were reduced: nine removal determinations were modified to censure, one removal was modified to admonition, two censures were modified to admonition, and one censure was

---

<sup>1</sup> The Stipulation was signed on July 22, 2021. The Commission accepted it and issued an order closing the matter on August 5, 2021.

rejected and the charges dismissed. The Court remitted one matter to the Commission for further proceedings.

### **Counsel**

In the proceedings before the Commission, Judge Duyssen was represented by Daniel M. Killelea of Gilmour & Killelea, 121 Prospect St #1, Attica, NY 14011, (585) 937-8987.

The Commission was represented by Robert H. Tembeckjian, Administrator and Counsel to the Commission; John J. Postel, Deputy Administrator in Charge of the Rochester office; and Senior Attorney David Duguay. Senior Investigator Vanessa Mangan was assigned to the case.

### **Background Information on Judge Duyssen**

First Took Office:	2018
Current Term Expires:	December 31, 2021

### **Members of the Commission**

The Commission members serve four-year terms. A list of members is appended.

### **The Public File**

The stipulation and order are attached. They are also available for inspection during regular business hours at the Commission's three offices:

61 Broadway Suite 1200 New York, New York 10006	Corning Tower, Suite 2301 Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12223	400 Andrews Street Suite 700 Rochester, New York 14604
---	---	--

**MEMBERS OF THE STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Appointing Authority</b>	<b>Term End</b>
Joseph W. Belluck, Esq., Chair	Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2024
Taa Grays, Esq., Vice Chair	Senate President Pro Tem Andrea Stewart-Cousins	March 31, 2023
Hon. Fernando M. Camacho	Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2024
Jodie Comgold	Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2023
Hon. John A. Falk	Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2025
Hon. Angela M. Mazzarelli	Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2022
Hon. Robert J. Miller	Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2022
Marvin Ray Raskin, Esq.	Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie	March 31, 2022
Ronald J. Rosenberg, Esq.	Former Senate Minority Leader John J. Flanagan	March 31, 2024
Graham B. Seiter, Esq.	Assembly Minority Leader William A. Barclay	March 31, 2025
Akosua Garcia Yeboah	Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2025