In the Matter of the Proceeding Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

### JUNE P. CHAPMAN,

**STIPULATION** 

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Subject to the approval of the Commission on Judicial Conduct ("Commission"):

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between Robert H. Tembeckjian, Esq., Administrator and Counsel to the Commission on Judicial Conduct ("Commission"), the Honorable June P. Chapman ("respondent"), and her attorney, Diane R. Tiveron, Esq., as follows.

- 1. Respondent has served as a Justice of the Ellicottville Town Court since January 1994. Respondent is 71 years old. She is not an attorney. Her current term of office expires on December 31, 2011.
- 2. Respondent was served by the Commission with a Formal Written Complaint dated March 5, 2008, which alleged *inter alia* that respondent failed to effectuate the right to counsel in a timely manner or altogether in three cases, with the result that three defendants each spent a week in jail; and failed to administer her court properly, with the result that bail monies in six cases were not deposited in a timely manner despite the Commission's prior Censure for such conduct, fine receipts in 22

cases were not remitted to the State Comptroller, a criminal case was dismissed because of the respondent's failure to take action, and sentencing dates in three cases were delayed for months because the respondent failed to order the pre-sentence investigation reports from the Probation Department. The Formal Written Complaint is appended hereto as Exhibit 1.

- 3. Respondent submitted an Answer dated March 27, 2008. The Answer is appended hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 4. Respondent tendered her resignation from judicial office on April 24, 2008, effective April 28, 2008, and has submitted copies to the Ellicottville Town Court and the Office of Court Administration. A copy of respondent's resignation letter is appended hereto as Exhibit 3.
- 5. Pursuant to Section 47 of the Judiciary Law, the Commission's jurisdiction over a judge continues for 120 days after resignation from office.
- 6. Respondent affirms that she will neither seek nor accept judicial office in the future.
- 7. All the parties to this Stipulation respectfully request that the Commission close the pending matter based upon this Stipulation.
- 8. Respondent waives confidentiality as provided by Section 45 of the Judiciary Law to the limited extent that this Stipulation will be made public if accepted by the Commission.

Dated: 5/10/08

Honorable June P. Chapman

Respondent

Dated: 5 | 13 | 08.

Diane R. Tiveron, Esq. Attorney for Respondent

Dated: 5 20 0 P

Robert H. Tembeckjian, Esq.

Administrator & Counsel to the Commission

(John J. Postel, Of Counsel)

In the Matter of the Proceeding Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

JUNE P. CHAPMAN,

NOTICE OF FORMAL WRITTEN COMPLAINT

A Justice of the Ellicottville Town Court, Cattaraugus County.

NOTICE is hereby given to respondent, June P. Chapman, a Justice of the Ellicottville Town Court, Cattaraugus County, pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law, that the State Commission on Judicial Conduct has determined that cause exists to serve upon respondent the annexed Formal Written Complaint; and that, in accordance with said statute, respondent is requested within twenty (20) days of the service of the annexed Formal Written Complaint upon her to serve the Commission at its Rochester office, 400 Andrews Street, Suite 700, Rochester, New York 14604 with her verified Answer to the specific paragraphs of the Complaint.

Dated: March 5, 2008

New York, New York

### ROBERT H. TEMBECKJIAN

Administrator and Counsel State Commission on Judicial Conduct 61 Broadway New York, New York 10006 (212) 809-0566

To: Diane R. Tiveron, Esq. Hogan & Willig

One John James Audubon Parkway

Suite 210

Amherst, New York 14228

EXHIBIT

In the Matter of the Proceeding Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

### JUNE P. CHAPMAN,

FORMAL WRITTEN COMPLAINT

A Justice of the Ellicottville Town Court, Cattaraugus County.

- 1. Article 6, Section 22, of the Constitution of the State of New York establishes a Commission on Judicial Conduct ("Commission"), and Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law empowers the Commission to direct that a Formal Written Complaint be drawn and served upon a judge.
- 2. The Commission has directed that a Formal Written Complaint be drawn and served upon June P. Chapman ("respondent"), a Justice of the Ellicottville Town Court, Cattaraugus County.
- 3. The factual allegations set forth in Charges I through IV state acts of judicial misconduct by respondent in violation of the Rules of the Chief Administrator of the Courts Governing Judicial Conduct ("Rules").
- 4. Respondent has been a Justice of the Ellicottville Town Court since January 1994. She is not an attorney.

## **CHARGE I**

5. From on or about October 6, 2004, through on or about December 8, 2004, respondent failed to deposit into her official court account, within 72 hours of

receipt, bail checks in six criminal cases totaling \$12,625, sent to her by the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department, notwithstanding the requirements of Section 214.9(a) of the Uniform Court Rules for the Justice Courts, and notwithstanding that the Commission determined on October 6, 2004, to censure her for having failed to deposit bail monies into her court account within 72 hours of receipt.

### Specifications to Charge I

- 6. On October 6, 2004, the Commission determined that respondent should be censured for having failed to deposit bail monies into her court account within 72 hours of receipt. Respondent stipulated to and accepted the determination.
- 7. On or about October 6, 2004, the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department forwarded to respondent a check for \$5,000, representing bail for Thomas Hosie, who had been arraigned by respondent on the charge of Criminal Possession Of A Controlled Substance, 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree.
  - 8. Respondent deposited the bail for Mr. Hosie on December 2, 2004.
- 9. On or about October 15, 2004, the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department forwarded to respondent a check for \$5,000, representing bail for Anthony Morale, whom respondent had arraigned on a charge of Robbery.
  - 10. Respondent deposited the bail for Mr. Morale on December 2, 2004.
- 11. On or about October 25, 2004, the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department forwarded to respondent a check for \$975, representing bail for Jon R. Riley, whom respondent had arraigned on a charge of Inciting To Riot.
  - 12. Respondent deposited the bail for Mr. Riley on December 2, 2004.

- 13. On or about October 25, 2004, the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department forwarded to respondent a check for \$500 for Richard Cavallero, II, whom respondent had arraigned on a charge of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation, 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree.
- 14. Respondent deposited the bail for Mr. Cavallaro on December 2, 2004.
- 15. On or about October 27, 2004, the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department forwarded to respondent a check for \$750 for Keith Wisniewski, whom respondent had arraigned on a charge of Driving While Intoxicated.
- 16. Respondent deposited the bail for Mr. Wisniewski on December 2, 2004.
- 17. On or about November 29, 2004, the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department forwarded to respondent a check for \$400 for Sean Fleming, whom respondent had arraigned on a charge of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation.
- 18. Respondent deposited the bail for Mr. Fleming on December 8, 2004.
- 19. By reason of the foregoing, respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary in that she failed to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in that she failed to respect and comply with the law and act in a manner that upholds

public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules; and failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that she failed to give precedence to her judicial duties over her other activities, in violation of Section 100.3(A) of the Rules, failed to be faithful to the law and to maintain professional competence in it, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(1) of the Rules, failed to diligently discharge her administrative responsibilities and maintain professional competence in judicial administration, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(1) of the Rules, and failed to require her court staff to observe the standards of fidelity and diligence that apply to her, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(2) of the Rules.

### **CHARGE II**

- 20. From on or about February 4, 2004, through the present, as set forth on the annexed Schedule A, respondent has failed to report and remit to the State Comptroller \$3,220 in fines and fees received from 22 defendants between February 4, 2004, and August 8, 2005, notwithstanding the requirements of Sections 2020 and 2021 of the Uniform Justice Court Act, Section 1803 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law and Section 27(1) of the Town Law.
- 21. By reason of the foregoing, respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary in that she failed to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety

in that she failed to respect and comply with the law and act in a manner that upholds public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules; and failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that she failed to give precedence to her judicial duties over her other activities, in violation of Section 100.3(A) of the Rules, failed to be faithful to the law and to maintain professional competence in it, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(1) of the Rules, failed to diligently discharge her administrative responsibilities and maintain professional competence in judicial administration, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(1) of the Rules, and failed to require her court staff to observe the standards of fidelity and diligence that apply to her, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(2) of the Rules.

### **CHARGE III**

22. In two criminal cases in 2006, respondent failed to take action to effectuate each defendant's right to counsel within 24 hours of arraignment, notwithstanding the requirements of Sections 170.10(3) and (4) and 180.10(3) and (4) of the Criminal Procedure Law and Section 200.26(c) of the Uniform Rules for Courts Exercising Criminal Jurisdiction, in that she delayed assigning counsel for over a month in one case and took no action to assign counsel in the other.

### **Specifications to Charge III**

# People v. Scott A. Kelly

23. On or about February 4, 2006, respondent arraigned the defendant in People v. Scott A. Kelly on a felony charge of Criminal Possession Of A Weapon, 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, and committed him to the Cattaraugus County Jail in lieu of \$10,000 bail.

- 24. Mr. Kelly had pleaded not guilty before respondent and requested assigned counsel. Respondent did not notify the Cattaraugus County Public Defender or otherwise assign counsel.
- 25. On or about February 8, 2006, Mr. Kelly reappeared before respondent, who re-committed him to jail in lieu of \$10,000 bail and scheduled a felony hearing for February 9, 2006. Respondent did not notify the Cattaraugus County Public Defender or otherwise assign counsel.
- 26. On or about February 9, 2006, Mr. Kelly appeared without counsel before respondent, who conducted a felony hearing at which the Assistant District Attorney was present. The charge was reduced to a misdemeanor charge of Criminal Possession Of A Weapon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, and respondent committed Mr. Kelly to jail in lieu of \$2,000 bail and scheduled the next appearance for March 8, 2006.
- 27. On or about February 15, 2006, bail was posted and Mr. Kelly was released from jail.
- 28. On or about March 8, 2006, respondent assigned the Cattaraugus County Public Defender to represent Mr. Kelly.

# People v. Keith R. Johnson

- 29. On or about June 28, 2006, respondent arraigned Keith R. Johnson on charges of Assault, 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, a misdemeanor, and Trespass, a violation, and committed him to the Cattaraugus County Jail in lieu of \$500 bail.
- 30. Mr. Johnson had pleaded not guilty before respondent and requested assigned counsel.

- 31. The charge originated in the jurisdiction of East Otto, a town adjoining the Town of Ellicottville. Respondent directed that Mr. Johnson appear in the East Otto Town Court on July 10, 2006. Respondent did not forward the pertinent documents to the East Otto Town Court, such as the accusatory instrument or a copy of her commitment order.
- 32. Respondent took no action to assign counsel to Mr. Johnson at or after the arraignment.
- 33. On or about July 10, 2006, Mr. Johnson, who was still in jail, appeared in the East Otto Town Court and was assigned counsel by a judge of that court.
- 34. By reason of the foregoing, respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary in that she failed to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in that she failed to respect and comply with the law and act in a manner that upholds public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules; and failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that she failed to be faithful to the law and to maintain professional competence in it, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(1) of the Rules, failed to diligently discharge her administrative responsibilities and maintain professional competence in judicial administration, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(1) of the Rules, and failed 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, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(6) of the Rules.

### **CHARGE IV**

35. Between on or about April 13, 2005, and on or about July 19, 2006, notwithstanding requests by the District Attorney and defense counsel, respondent failed to schedule proceedings in *People v. Lynn L. Law*, in which the defendant was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation, 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, a felony, and Driving While Intoxicated, Failure To Submit To A Chemical Test, Failure To Maintain Right, and Leaving The Scene Of An Accident, with the result that all charges were dismissed for failure to provide a speedy trial.

### Specifications to Charge IV

- 36. On or about March 7, 2005, the defendant was arrested in the Town of Ellicottville.
- 37. On or about March 8, 2005, respondent arraigned the defendant and committed him to the Cattaraugus County Jail in lieu of \$600 bail. The defendant appeared without counsel.
- 38. On or about April 13, 2005, respondent re-arraigned the defendant on the same charges in the presence of his attorney, Bryan D. Milks. The defendant pleaded not guilty to all the charges.
- 39. From on or about April 13, 2005, through on or about July 19, 2006, respondent neither scheduled a felony hearing as required by Section 180.10(2) of the Criminal Procedure Law nor took any other action to schedule further proceedings in the

matter, notwithstanding requests by the District Attorney and defense counsel that proceedings be scheduled.

- 40. On or about July 19, 2006, respondent granted Mr. Milks' motion to dismiss all the charges for failure to provide the defendant a speedy trial as required by Sections 30.20 and 30.30 of the Criminal Procedure Law.
- 41. By reason of the foregoing, respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary in that she failed to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in that she failed to respect and comply with the law and act in a manner that upholds public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules; and failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that she failed to be faithful to the law and to maintain professional competence in it, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(1) of the Rules, failed to diligently discharge her administrative responsibilities and maintain professional competence in judicial administration, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(1) of the Rules, and failed 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, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(6) of the Rules.

WHEREFORE, by reason of the foregoing, the Commission should take whatever further action it deems appropriate in accordance with its powers under the Constitution and the Judiciary Law of the State of New York.

Dated: March 5, 2008

New York, New York

ROBERT H. TEMBEČKJIAN

Administrator and Counsel

State Commission on Judicial Conduct

61 Broadway

New York, New York 10006

212-809-0566

# Schedule A

# Traffic Cases in Which Fines and Fees Were Not Reported to the State Comptroller

# January 2004 – August 2005

<u>Defendant</u>	Receipt Number	Receipt Date	Amount Received
Matthew Havercroft	002579	02/04/04	\$ 215.00
Cody Green	002600	02/18/04	150.00
Timothy Tasner	002601	02/18/04	145.00
David Smith	002602	02/18/04	145.00
Michael R.Wallner	002603	02/18/04	155.00
Timothy Johnson	002604	02/18/04	150.00
Jason Dahl	002621	03/31/04	80.00
Michael Brummer	002622	03/31/04	145.00
Wendy Frank	002623	03/31/04	145.00
Mathew Ziembree	002624	03/31/04	105.00
Robert Gershberg	002625	03/31/04	105.00
Andrew Demme	002669	05/19/04	45.00
Cody Green	003927	06/09/04	50.00
James Felik	002684	06/23/04	250.00
Edward C.	002706	07/07/04	145.00
Kelly Law	002707	07/07/04	145.00
Youself Nanias	002724	08/04/04	145.00
Joshua Belle	002731	08/18/04	250.00
Kurt Oldenburg	003248	03/12/05	200.00
Michael Hollander	003250	03/12/05	90.00
Barbara Bastow	004208	08/03/05	200.00
Martin Wysacki	003139	08/08/05	160.00
TOTAL:	,		\$ 3,220.00

	SION O	YORK N JUDICIAL CONDUCT X
In the Matt Pursuant to	er of th Sectio	e Proceeding n 44, subdivision 4, w in Relation to  VERIFICATION
JUN	VE P. C	HAPMAN,
Cattaraugus	s Count	licottville Town Court, ty.
STATE OF		: ss.:
	ROE	BERT H. TEMBECKJIAN, being duly sworn, deposes and says:
Conduct.	1.	I am the Administrator of the State Commission on Judicial
	2.	I have read the foregoing Formal Written Complaint and, upon
information	and bo	elief, all matters stated therein are true.
the State Co	3. ommiss	The basis for said information and belief is the files and records of sion on Judicial Conduct.

Robert H. Tembeckijan

Sworn to before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 2008

Notary Public

Melissa R. DiPalo Notary Public, State of New York No. 02D16065643 Qualified in Kings County Commission Expires 10.112.09

In the Matter of the Proceeding Pursuant to Section 44, Subdivision 4 of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

### **VERIFIED ANSWER**

### JUNE P. CHAPMAN,

A Justice of the Ellicottville Town Court, Cattaraugus County.

JUNE P. CHAPMAN, by and through her attorneys, HoganWillig, PLLC, as and for her Answer to the Formal Written Complaint, hereby alleges as follows:

- 1. ADMITS the allegations contained in paragraphs 4, 6, 23, 27, 29, 37, and 38 of the Formal Written Complaint.
- 2. DENIES the allegations contained in paragraphs 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 39, 40, and 41 of the Formal Written Complaint.
- 3. DENIES that she has knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 33 and 36 of the Formal Written Complaint.
  - 4. JUNE P. CHAPMAN denies each and every allegation not otherwise admitted herein.

### AS AND FOR A FIRST DEFENSE

5. The Formal Written Complaint fails to state a cause of action for which relief may be granted.

### AS AND FOR A SECOND DEFENSE

6. JUNE P. CHAPMAN is not subject to the jurisdiction of this Court as she was never properly served with the Formal Written Complaint.

#### AS AND FOR A THIRD DEFENSE

7. This action is barred by the applicable statute of limitations.



### AS AND FOR A FOURTH DEFENSE

8. The specified conduct complained of in the Formal Written Complaint is neither improper nor unethical.

### WHEREFORE, JUNE P. CHAPMAN demands:

- A. Judgment dismissing the Formal Written Complaint as against her in its entirety with costs and disbursements of this action;
- B. Together with such other and further relief as this Court may deem just, proper, and equitable.

Dated: March <u>27</u>, 2008.

DIANE R. TIVERON, ESQ.

HOGANWILLIG, PLLC

Attorneys for JUNE P. CHAPMAN One John James Audubon Parkway

aulllu

Amherst, New York 14228 Tel. (716) 636-7600

TO: Robert E. Tembeckjian, Esq.
Administrator and Counsel
State Commission on Judicial Conduct
61 Broadway
New York, New York 10006
Tel. (212) 809-0566

### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF NEW YORK	)	
	) ;	SS
COUNTY OF CATTARAUGUS	)	

JUNE P. CHAPMAN, being duly sworn says: I am the Respondent in the action herein; I have read the annexed Verified Answer, know the contents thereof and the same is true to my knowledge, except those matters therein which are stated to be alleged on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

June P Chapman

Sworn to before me this 27 day of Mach, 2008.

Notary Public

DIANE R. TIVERON
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK
QUALIFIED IN NIAGARA COUNTY
COMMISSION EXPIRES APR. 30,

### **CLIENT CERTIFICATION**

I, JUNE P. CHAPMAN, HEREBY CERTIFY, under penalty of perjury, that I have carefully read and reviewed the annexed document and that all information contained in the document is true and accurate in all respects to the best of my knowledge and understanding.

I FURTHER CERTIFY, under penalty of perjury, that neither my attorney nor anyone acting on my attorney's behalf, was the source of any of the information contained in the annexed document; that I provided all of the information contained in the annexed document to my attorney; and that I understand that my attorney, in executing the Attorney Certification required by 22 NYCRR Section 202.16(e), is relying entirely upon the information provided by me and upon my certification that all such information is true and accurate.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that the annexed document includes all information which I provided to my attorney which is relevant to such document and that my attorney has not deleted, omitted or excluded any such information.

Dated: March <u>17</u>, 2008

### **ATTORNEY CERTIFICATION**

I, DIANE R. TIVERON, ESQ., certify that to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, formed after an inquiry reasonable under the circumstances, certify that the presentation of the foregoing paper or the contentions therein are not frivolous as defined in subsection (c) of Section 130-1.1 of the Rules of the Chief Administrator of the Courts.

Dated: March 27, 2008

DIANE R. TIVERON, ESQ.

# JUNE P. CHAPMAN P.O. Box 566 Ellicottville, New York 14731 (716) 699-2248

April 24, 2008

To Whom it May Concern:

This is to advise that I hereby resign effective <u>4/28/2008</u> from my office as Justice of the Town Court of Ellicottville, Cattaraugus County.

Sincerely,

June P. Chapman