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COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:

No. 4JD 2020

Judge Mark V. Tranquilli
Court of Common Pleas
5th Judicial District
Allegheny County

**RESPONDENT'S VERIFIED ANSWER TO PETITION FOR RELIEF
FOR INTERIM SUSPENSION WITH OR WITHOUT PAY**

AND NOW comes the above-captioned Respondent, through his undersigned counsel of record, pursuant to the Court of Judicial Discipline Rules of Procedure, to respectfully submit this Verified Answer to the Petition for Relief for Interim Suspension With or Without Pay filed on August 12, 2020, requesting an evidentiary hearing and/or oral argument regarding the same and incorporating herein by reference his Verified Petition for Relief filed on September 3, 2020 along with his related briefing, whereof the following is a statement:

1. The averments contained in Paragraph 1 of the Petition for Relief for Interim Suspension With or Without Pay contain legal conclusions to which no response is required.
2. Denied as stated. Respondent avers to the contrary that from his investiture as a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County on January 6, 2014 until February 6, 2020, he continuously served as a judge on said court, presiding over cases in the same. By way of further response, Respondent

avers that beginning on February 6, 2020, Respondent had been under a *de facto* suspension with pay, approved by our Supreme Court, by virtue of President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark's February 6, 2020 Order of Court, a copy of said Order of Court is attached as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein. Moreover, Respondent avers that President Judge Clark entered the above Order of Court after consultation with the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts and our Supreme Court following her initial, February 3, 2020 Order of Court which, pursuant to Pennsylvania Rule of Judicial Administration 702(2), re-assigned Respondent from the criminal division of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas to its summary appeals docket, a copy of said Order of Court is attached as "Exhibit B" and incorporated herein. Despite its obligation to do so and in direct contravention of its proper disclosures in past petitions seeking interim suspension of judicial officers, the Judicial Conduct Board ("JCB" or "Board") chose not to advise this Honorable Court of the foregoing in seeking the present interim suspension which this Honorable Court granted without pay on August 26, 2020.

3. The averments contained in paragraph 3 of the Petition for Relief for Interim Suspension With or Without Pay contain legal conclusions to which no response is required.

4. The averments contained in paragraph 4 of the Petition for Relief for Interim Suspension With or Without Pay contain legal conclusions to which no response is required. By way of further response, Respondent incorporates herein

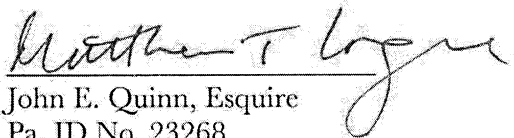
by reference his answer to Paragraph 2 of the Petition for Relief for Interim Suspension With or Without Pay.

WHEREFORE, Respondent respectfully requests that this Honorable Court order an evidentiary hearing and/or oral argument on the Board's August 12, 2020 Petition for Petition for Relief for Interim Suspension With or Without Pay at the Court's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

QUINN LOGUE LLC

By:



John E. Quinn, Esquire
Pa. ID No. 23268
Matthew T. Logue, Esquire
Pa. ID No. 87416

200 First Avenue, Third Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-1512
(412) 765-3800

Date: September 14, 2020

Counsel for Respondent

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:)
)
TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT OF)
HONORABLE MARK V. TRANQUILLI)
TO SUMMARY APPEALS)
)

No. AD - 20 - 40 - PJ

ORDER OF COURT

Filed by:

Kim Berkeley Clark
President Judge

Copies to:

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Hon. Thomas Saylor, Chief Justice
Hon. Max Baer, Justice
Hon. Debra Todd, Justice
Hon. Christine Donahue, Justice
Hon. Kevin Dougherty, Justice
Hon. David Wecht, Justice
Hon. Sally Mundy

Court of Common Pleas

Hon. David Cashman, Acting A.J.

Hon. Kim Eaton, A.J.
Hon. Lawrence O'Toole, A.J.
Hon. Jill Rangos, A.J.
Hon. Christine Ward, A.J.

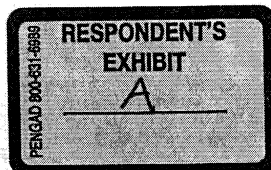
Geoffrey Moulton, Esquire
Court Administrator

Christopher Connors, Esquire
District Court Administrator

FILED

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DEPT. OF COURT RECORDS
CIVIL FAMILY DIVISION
ALLEGHENY COUNTY PA



IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ADMINISTRATIVE DOCKET

IN RE:)
)
TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT OF) No. AD - 20 - 40 - PJ
HONORABLE MARK V. TRANQUILLI)
TO SUMMARY APPEALS)
)

ORDER OF COURT

AND NOW, this 3rd day of February 2020, pursuant to Pa.R.J.A. No. 702(2), subject to approval and further Order by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania it is **ORDERED** that the Honorable Mark V. Tranquilli is assigned to preside over Summary Appeals, effectively immediately.

BY THE COURT:



Kim Berkeley Clark
President Judge

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ADMINISTRATIVE DOCKET

IN RE:)

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT OF)
HONORABLE MARK V. TRANQUILLI)
TO ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES)

No. AD - 20 - 59 - PJ

ORDER OF COURT

AND NOW, this 6TH day of February, 2020, it is **ORDERED** that the Honorable Mark V. Tranquilli is temporarily assigned to perform administrative duties only, effectively immediately. Judge Tranquilli shall not preside over any cases during this assignment.

FILED

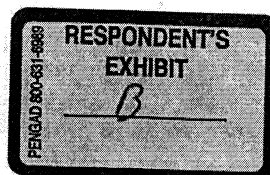
2020 FEB -6 AM 9:32

DEPT. OF COURT RECORDS
300 MARKET STREET
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA

BY THE COURT:



Kim Berkeley Clark
President Judge



IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:

Judge Mark V. Tranquilli
Court of Common Pleas
5th Judicial District
Allegheny County

No. 4 JD 2020

VERIFICATION

The undersigned is the Respondent in the above-captioned matter who submits the following Verification pursuant to the Court of Judicial Discipline Rules of Procedure. The foregoing pleading is based upon information that Respondent has furnished to counsel and information that has been gathered by counsel in preparation of said pleading. The language of said pleading is that of counsel and not of Respondent. Respondent has read the foregoing pleading and to the extent that the same is based upon information that he has provided to counsel, it is true and correct to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, information and belief. To the extent that the content of the foregoing pleading is that of counsel, Respondent has relied upon counsel in making this Verification. Respondent understands that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Date: September 14, 2020

Mark V. Tranquilli

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:

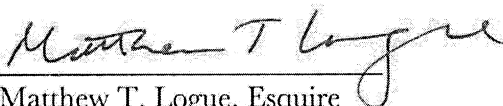
Judge Mark V. Tranquilli
Court of Common Pleas
5th Judicial District
Allegheny County

No. 4 JD 2020

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

The undersigned certifies that this filing complies with the provisions of the *Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts* that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Submitted by:


Matthew T. Logue, Esquire
Pa. ID No. 87416

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:

No. 4JD 2020

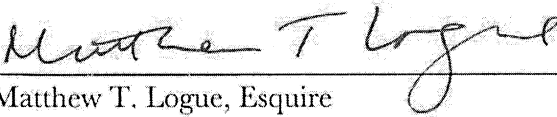
Judge Mark V. Tranquilli
Court of Common Pleas
5th Judicial District
Allegheny County

PROOF OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Rule 122 of the Court of Judicial Discipline Rules of Procedure, the undersigned certifies that on the below date a true and correct copy of the foregoing pleading in the above-captioned matter was served upon the following attorneys of record to the parties in this proceeding by USPS First-Class Mail and electronic mail.

James P. Kleman, Jr., Esquire
Deputy Counsel
Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Judicial Center
601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500
P.O. Box 62525
Harrisburg, PA 17106
james.klemanjr@jcbpa.org

Date: September 14, 2020


Matthew T. Logue, Esquire
Counsel for Respondent