# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

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COUNT OF
JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE
OF PERSON
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IN RE:

J. Michael Eakin
Justice of the Supreme Court of

: No. 13 JD 2015

Pennsylvania

#### JUSTICE J. MICHAEL EAKIN'S PRE-TRIAL MEMORANDUM

AND NOW comes Justice J. Michael Eakin, by and through his counsel, William C. Costopoulos, Esquire, and Heidi F. Eakin, Esquire, Costopoulos, Foster & Fields, and respectfully files the following Pre-Trial Memorandum:

### A. Witness List (Subject to supplementation)

- Jack Harlacker

   Judicial Conduct Board
   601 Commonwealth Avenue
   Ste. 3500
   P.O. Box 62525
   Harrisburg, PA 17106
   (Fact witness regarding Board's Investigation and witness interviews)
- Janey Thrush
   4720 Old Gettysburg Road
   Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
   ( Fact witness related to the Board's complaint at paragraph 78 (I) and J. and Character witness)
- Lynn Zembower
   4720 Old Gettysburg Road
   Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
   ( Fact witness related to the Board's complaint at paragraph 78 (I) and J and Character witness).

#### 4. Machell McCoy

4720 Old Gettysburg Road

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

(Fact witness related to the Board's complaint at paragraph 78 (I) and J. and Character witness)

#### 5. William C. Vohs, Esquire

4720 Old Gettysburg Road

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

( Fact witness related to daily operations of Chambers , Opinions issued by Justice Eakin and Character witness)

#### 6. Catherine L. Shelly, Esquire

4720 Old Gettysburg Road

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

( Fact witness related to daily operations of Chambers , Opinions issued by Justice Eakin and Character witness)

#### 7. Jeffrey Baxter, Esquire

Senior Deputy Attorney General

Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General

10950 Route 30

North Huntingdon, PA 15642

( Fact witness related to e-mails contained in Board's Complaint and Character witness)

#### 8. Terrance McGowan, Esquire

Killian and Gebhart

218 Pine Street

P. O. Box 886

Harrisburg, PA 17108

(Fact witness related to e-mails sent to Justice Eakin itemized in Board's complaint)

#### 9. Stacy Barker Wolf, Esquire

4720 Old Gettysburg Road

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

(Fact witness relating to daily operations of Justice Eakin's Chambers)

Sam Cooper, Esquire
 4078 Rosewall Court
 Harrisburg, PA 17108
 ( Fact witness related to lack of bias racial or otherwise a Character witness, subject to his confirmation.)

11. Maria P. Cognetti
Cognetti & Associates
3304 Market Street
Camp Hill, PA 17011
(Fact witness related to lack of bias)

Robert Davis, Esquire
121 Pine Street, First Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
(Ethics expert who will confirm testimony of Sam Stretton Esquire provided at suspension hearing held December 21, 2015; to wit, charges do not violate the Cannons)

John Hare, Esquire
 2000 Market Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19103
 (Expert witness to reiterate his testimony provided at the suspension hearing held on December 21, 2015, said testimony further corroborated by his review of the flash drive containing Justice Eakin's Opinions.)

Joseph Curcillo III, Esquire
3096 Lexington Street
Harrisburg, PA 17109
(Character Witness)
\*Respondent intends to call multiple character witness'.

#### **B.** Exhibits

- 1. Judicial Conduct Board Letter dated December 14, 2014 dismissing 2014 complaint.
- 2. Report of Special Counsel Robert Byer dated December 19, 2014.
- 3. Report of Special Counsel Joseph A. Delsole dated October 30, 2015.
- 4. Transcript of testimony of Attorney Samuel Stretton taken at Suspension Hearing held on December 21, 2015.

- 5. Video Deposition of Judge Steven McEwen taken on December 18, 2015.
- 6. Report of Special Counsel Kathy Speaker MacNett, Esquire dated December 23, 2015.

#### C. Stipulations

Proposed stipulations are being prepared by the Board, and their review and approval by Respondent is pending, and may be supplemented.

# D. Legal Issues to be addressed by The Court of Judicial Discipline at the Pre-Trial Conference or at the Trial.

- 1. The admissibility or relevance of unsolicited e-mails received where there is no evidence that said e-mails were opened or forwarded.
- 2. The admissibility or relevance of unsolicited e-mails similar in nature to those attributed to Respondent received by others in the various branches of government.

## E. Certification

All materials required to be exchanged pursuant to C.J.D.R.P. No. 401 (D)(1) have been furnished.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

William C. Costopoulos, Esquire

I.D. No. 22354

Heldi F. Eakin, Esquire

I.D. No. 43893

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ATTORNEYS FOR JUSTICE J.

MICHAEL EAKIN

DATED: January 7, 2016

## COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

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J. Michael Eakin Justice of the Supreme Court of

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### **VERIFICATION**

The undersigned verifies that the foregoing matter is true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief. The undersigned understands that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. Section 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Heidi F. Eakin, Esquire

I.D. No. 43893

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ATTORNEYS FOR JUSTICE J. MICHAEL EAKIN

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#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

In compliance with Rule 122(d) of the Court of Judicial Discipline Rules of Procedure, on December 16, 2015, a copy of *Justice J. Michael Eakin's Answer to Complaint with New Matter* was provided to Francis J. Puskas, II, Sr. Deputy Counsel, by personal service at the following address:

Francis J. Puskas, II, Sr. Deputy Counsel Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania 601 Commonwealth Ave. Suite 3500 P.O. Box 62525 Harrisburg, PA 17120-0901

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

William C. Costopoulos, Esquire

I.D. No. 22354

Heldi F. Eakin, Esquire

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ATTORNEYS FOR JUSTICE J. MICHAEL EAKIN

DATED: January 7, 2016