COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

RECEIVED AND FILED

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JUDGE MARK B. COHEN	:	ANA SC
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS	:	Ĩ
1 ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT	:	IPLIN
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY	:	m

OMNIBUS MOTION PURSUANT TO RULE 411 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE REQUESTING DISMISSAL OF THE CASE

The Respondent, Judge Mark B. Cohen, by his counsel, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, hereby files an Omnibus Motion pursuant to Rule 411 of the Court of Judicial Discipline Rules of Procedure requesting dismissal of the charges since the allegations of posting do no constitute misconduct but are protected speech pursuant to the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution and Article I Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution for the following reasons:

Judge Mark B. Cohen, who served for 42 and a half 1) years in the Pennsylvania Legislator as an elected Representative from Philadelphia County, and subsequently elected to the Court of Common Pleas, had a reputation for a great knowledge and learning. Judge Cohen constantly reads books and newspapers in political, historical and international areas and is extremely knowledgeable on those matters. For years, he has had a blog both before he became a Judge and now during his

Judgeship, where he comments on matters of importance in the state, the nation and internationally. His posts and comments do not support or recommend any political candidate. His posts do not endorse any political candidate or party. His posts do not discuss matters that would come before his Court. His posts consist of many informed and knowledgeable comments on state, national and international affairs.

2) Judge Cohen's blogs and posts do not support any particular party or political viewpoint. They discuss legislation, political and governmental leaders, both Republican and Democrat, and at times Independents.

3) A Petition for Discipline was filed on or about February 23rd, 2023. A copy of that Petition is attached and marked as Exhibit "A" and incorporated by reference.

The Petition highlights some of the posts of Judge
 Cohen although there are many, many more which are not noted.

5) A review of these posts all demonstrate that they discuss matters of importance, do not endorse political candidates, do not discuss matters that would appear before the Court.

6) Judge Cohen had opportunities to cease posting but it is his position that he has a right to speak out and engage in serious and dignified discussion and his posts are protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and

Article I Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution. Therefore, he has continued these posts and told the Judicial Conduct Board that it is his intent and purpose to raise these issues before the Court of Judicial Discipline so an opinion can set forth what a Judicial Officer is allowed to do in this type of posting since Judge Cohen believes his postings are consistent with the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

7) Article I Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution provides very broad protection for speech.

"The free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of man, and every citizen may freely speak, write, and print on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty. No conviction shall be had in any prosecution for the publication of papers relating to the official conduct of officers and men in public capacity, or to any other matter proper for public investigation or information, where the fact that such publication was not maliciously or negligently made shall be established to the satisfaction of the jury ---" see Article I Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

8) The First Amendment of the United States Constitution which would apply to this matter through the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution reads as follows:

> "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise therefore; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for redress of grievances." See the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

In reviewing the Pennsylvania Code of Judicial Conduct, other than prohibitions on political speech, the Code does not appear to preclude or prevent posting in a proper and dignified manner by commenting on issues of importance.

9) In fact, under the Code of Judicial Conduct, under Rule 4.1 which is entitled Political and Campaign Activities of Judges and Judicial Candidates in General, in comment 9 to that Rule, makes the following points:

> "Pledges, promises, or commitments must be contrasted with statements or announcements of personal views on legal, political, or other issues, which are not prohibited. When making such statements, a judge should acknowledge the overarching judicial obligation to apply and uphold the law, without regard to his or her personal views," see Comment 9 to Rule 4.1 of the Pennsylvania Code of Judicial Conduct.

That language clearly seems to suggest and allows statements or comments of personal views on political, legal or other issues. Such comments do not appear to be prohibited by the Code of Judicial Conduct.

In reviewing the prior decisions of the Judicial Conduct Board and the Court of Judicial Discipline, there is no case directly on point. Most of the social media prosecutions involve Judges hearing cases where people are friends of theirs on social media, or some judges using social media for a relationships or things of that nature.

10) In the excellent book Judicial Conduct and Ethics Sixth Edition, by Charles Geyh James Alfini and James Sample, which was published in December of 2020 by Lexis Nexis, there is discussion about speech by Judicial Officers. It should be noted that Judge Cohen is not a candidate for office and is not engaging in political endorsements or political speech. He is engaging in discussions of issues of importance at the state and federal levels. The aforementioned book notes as follows:

> "The debate over whether and how far we can or should inquire into and regulate a judge's private life and public life take on a whole new dimension with the advent of computer technology and the internet. Unlike traditional written communication that provides an opportunity for reflection between the time a message is written and the time it is sent out to published, electronic communication is instantaneous; the opportunities for judges to engage in spontaneous and ill-considered communications that may reflect badly on the Judiciary are thus corresponding greater," Id 9-37.

The authors go on to note how information can be disseminated across the internet, Id 9-37. There is a discussion about the Third Circuit Counsel's decision in the case of Judge Kozinski, of the Ninth Circuit. Judge Kozinski had posted sexually explicit matters on the internet and then recused himself from a pending obscenity case, Id 9-37. The Third Circuit Counsel censured Judge Kozinski noting possession of sexually explicit material combined with carelessness amounted

to a disregard of a serious risk of public embarrassment, <u>Id</u> 9-38. Judge Kozinski was sanctioned and censured as a result.

Clearly, there is no such problems with Judge Cohen's posts which have nothing to do with pornography or obscenities or anything of that nature.

The Judicial Ethics book discusses Judges who have been sanctioned for inappropriate online communications but many of those have to do with chatting with women, contacts to Judges about a DUI case or sexually explicit approaches and comments, Id 9-40.

11) The authors of the aforementioned book note as follows:

> "In response to similar inquiries from judges in their jurisdictions, other states have issued advisory opinions that, like New York, take a relatively permissive approach to a judge's participation in social networking sites, but underscore the need for caution on the part of the judge," Id 9-41, 9-42.

The authors then comment that most of the concerns are judges friending lawyers or litigants or persons who may appear before them.

The authors of the book discuss blogs, such as Judge Cohen's:

> "Advisory opinions have also addressed the practice of maintaining a blog. Without flatly prohibiting the practice, these opinions have noted a number of concerns, including the judge's blog post may undermine public confidence in the impartiality of a judge and create an appearance of impropriety. Judges

who do blogs must be careful not to run afoul of the rules prohibiting comments on pending cases, fundraising or impermissible political activity. They also must avoid commentary that would necessitate frequent disqualifications," Id 9-45.

12) The authors address problematic speech such as slurs, curse words or racial or sexual comments, which would clearly be prohibited, <u>Id</u> 9-46. The authors of this book then discuss opinions on blogs:

> "Statements of opinion on public issues may be controversial or offensive to certain groups while still falling within the ambit of protected discourse, particularly where the statements are ambiguous or context dependent," Id 9-49.

The authors of the aforementioned book then ask at what point does a statement become offensive and whether judge's motives and personal history have to be considered and evaluated in the statements. The authors ask the question as to whether outspoken opinions are to be simply protected under the First Amendment or for judicial independence even though they could raise questions of the Judge's impartiality, <u>Id</u> 9-51.

13) The authors then suggest a test of sorts. They first ask, if the offending statement is prejudicial to the effective and expeditious administration of the business of the Courts, <u>Id</u> 9-51. They note that statements that are "ambiguous or mildly offensive should not be considered to violate Rules of Judicial Conduct particularly in the absence of aggravating factors such as reputation or personal views," <u>Id</u> 951. The authors then

discuss statements of opinion. The authors note that for statements of opinion, there has to be an objective standard with contextual interpretation, \underline{Id} 9-52. The authors note that the consideration of the judge's past record would be helpful in evaluating the context of statements, \underline{Id} 9-52.

14) Clearly, public misrepresentations or comments on pending cases and things of that nature are prohibited and Judge Cohen has not done any of those. The authors note that judges are allowed to comment on the administration or legal system or administration of justice, <u>Id</u> 9-61. They note that it is absolutely important that a judge has the right to discuss court procedure but notes it could be a dangerous area if the Judge's impartiality could be questioned, <u>Id</u> 9-61.

15) Judge Cohen respectfully denies that any of his posts that are set forth in the Petition for Discipline (Complaint) violate any Rules of Judicial Conduct. He contends his posts are consistent with his First Amendment right under the United States Constitution and Article I Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution. He contends that none of his comments were prejudicial to the administration of justice, no comment involved any pending case and he contends that his comments do not violate the Code of Judicial Conduct.

Judge Cohen respectfully contends that he is entitled, pursuant to the First Amendment of the United States

Constitution and Article I Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, which appears broader than the First Amendment, to discuss issues of importance as he has done all of his life. He contends that his posts are in a dignified manner, done with knowledge and wisdom, and discuss in a serious fashion issues of the day including broadcasting election results, commenting on major federal legislation, commenting on government personalities and even at times, noting that it is someone's birthday. He contends that none of these comments are prohibited by any Rules of Judicial Conduct.

16) Judge Cohen notes there are not a large number of cases on the issue of judges and social media. One case of interest in the Special Court of Review in Texas, in the case of <u>In Re Slaughter</u> 480 SW 3rd 842 (Texas Special Ct. of Review, 2015). The Texas Court of Review found comments by a judge not to violate the Code of Ethics. In that case, the judge had commented on a pending case and the Court said there was no complete prohibition about a judge commenting on a pending case. Judge Cohen's situation is far different. He is not commenting on any case. The Texas Court thought it would be better for a judge not to comment on pending cases but found that the judge's comments were not suggestive of a probable cause decision.

17) Reviewing the posts set forth in the Petition for Discipline (Complaint) the Exhibits show there is no issue of

appearance of impropriety. Comments are on national and state and sometimes local issues. There is nothing in Judge Cohen's comments that would in any way undermine public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judicial system and the Judge's comments do not detract from the dignity of his Judicial Office. His comments are well reasoned and informed in discussing national or statewide issues. There is nothing that Judge Cohen says that would in any way cause his disqualification on any case that might come before him.

18) Further, reviewing Judge Cohen's comments, they are not political in nature. They are issue oriented comments on matters of national and state concern. There is nothing in his posts that are on subjects that will appear before him in Philadelphia Family Court. He has not endorsed any candidates. He has not promoted any candidates. He has not solicitated contributions. There are no ethnic or racial type of comments or jokes. There is no profanity. His comments are serious discussions about state and national issues.

Although Judges in their positions have to have a more stringent standard of conduct than the average citizen, in review of Judge Cohen's posts it does not appear the posts violate his duties to his Judicial Office. There are no comments or expressions based on sex, gender, sexual orientation or race. There is nothing in Judge Cohen's comments that are false or

misleading. There are no statements commenting on a particular case that is pending.

Though these are posts, there is really nothing 19) different than Judge's who publish books or articles. Judges have written books, articles, and law review articles over the years. Supreme Court Justice Douglas was well-known for publishing a number of books on issues of importance when he was a sitting Supreme Court Justice, including and emphasizing environmental issues. In fact, several of the current Supreme Court Justices have written books about their lives and on issues. One of the more recent ones is now retired Justice Beyer. Former Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Michael Musmanno published a number of books as did the late Common Pleas Judge Lois Forer. There was nothing wrong with their books and publications where serious issues were discussed. Judge Cohen's posts are of similar ilk. His posts are like short essays in an electronic manner.

20) In reviewing some of his posts, the posts clearly discuss important subject matters. A comment, which is attached to the Petition of the Judicial Conduct Board, talks about inflation:

> "6.2% inflation hurts those with salaries and pensions. Encourages workers to unionize and those with pensions to seek gains."

There is a post talking about the latest results in a hotly contested Commonwealth Court case in the year of 2021, which is purely factual reporting. There is a post about a filibuster by Congressman McCarthy concerning the Build Back Better law. There is a quotation by Bruce Springsteen that unions have been the only powerful and effective ways working people have ever had in the history of this country. All of these posts are informative opinions. Judge Cohen's posts contain discussions about why people strike. His posts are presented in a learned and informative fashion. None of these posts violate any portions of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

21) Judge Cohen respectfully requests the Complaint be dismissed since it contains protective speech. Count 1 alleges violation of Rule 1.1. Rule 1.1 states a Judge should comply with the law. The Board alleges that Judge Cohen's comments violate the law and violate the Code of Conduct. Yet, there is nowhere in the Code of Conduct that prohibits such posts as noted at the very beginning of this Omnibus Motion when discussing comment 9 to Rule 4.1. Judge Cohen's posts are protected speech pursuant to the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

22) Count 2 alleges the violation of Cannon 1, Rule 1.2. Rule 1.2 states that a judge must at all times promote public

confidence in independence, integrity and impartiality of the Judiciary and avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety. The Board suggests that Judge Cohen violated that by these blogs. A review of his posts shows no appearance of impropriety or any impropriety whatsoever. They show serious comments on serious national importance consistent with the First Amendment and Article I, Section 7 protected speech.

23) Count 3 alleges violation of Rule 1.3. Rule 1.3 prohibits a Judge from abusing the prestige of a judicial office to advance personal or economic interest of the judge or others. The Judicial Conduct Board indicates that Judge Cohen violated this Cannon since his conduct used the prestige of his judicial office to advance his own personal economic interest. However, a review of Judge Cohen's posts does not suggest that in any way shape or form. His posts involve serious discussions on issues of importance. He has no particular interest in his comments in terms of his own personal or economic interests. He is discussing matters of importance for the purpose of educating and informing people. His speech is protected by the First Amendment and Article I, Section 7.

24) Count 4 involves allegations of violating Rule 3.1(c). Rule 3.1(c) talks about extra judicial activities. That Rule prohibits activities that would reasonably appear to undermine the judge's independence, integrity or impartiality. On the

contrary, Judge Cohen's conduct has not violated this Rule and there is nothing in his posts that would cause questions as to his impartiality, integrity or independence. In fact, to the contrary, his posts show a learned Judge who has a great interest in public affairs and educating and informing people. His speech is protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

25) Count 5 alleges violation of Rule 3.7(a). Rule 3.7(a) states that when a Judge participates in advocational activities, the Judge can write, lecture and speak on nonlegal subjects and in engage in art, sports and other social and recreational activities, if these activities do not detract from the dignity of the office or interfere with the performance of judicial duties. Again, Judge Cohen has not violated this Rule. Judge Cohen's posts on his blog do not interfere with any part of his Judicial Office, and do not detract from the dignity of the Court. His posts are informative protected speech allowed by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

26) Count 6 alleges violation of Rule 4.1(a)(3). That Rules talks about political activities of a Judge and a judicial candidate for office and prohibits the public endorsement or public opposition to any candidates for public office. Careful

reading of Judge Cohen's posts demonstrate beyond any question that he has not endorsed any particular candidate. The Judicial Conduct Board suggests that he has endorsed Representative Liz Cheney, who was a candidate for re-election to Congress in 2022. Ms. Cheney was not running for office in the state of Pennsylvania. Further, a review of that post in the Board's Exhibit "15", Judge Cohen specifically says he as a Judge cannot and will not endorse or otherwise support any candidate, (see Exhibit "A-15"). There is nothing in this post where Judge Cohen is endorsing any candidate.

27) Count 7 alleges violation of Rule 4.1(a)(2). That Rule, in essence, states that a Judge cannot engage in political activity on behalf of a political organization. In review of the posts do not any way suggest that Judge Cohen is campaigning or doing any political activity whatsoever. He is commenting on issues, commenting on personalities. The Judicial Conduct Board suggests that the conduct constitutes political activity on behalf of the Democratic party. But a review of these posts shows no such endorsement or political activity for the Democratic party. There are obviously discussions of left and right viewpoints and Democratic and Republican viewpoints. But there is certainly no endorsement, the discussions are learned and informative.

28) Judge Cohen, in Count 8, is charged with violating Article V, Section 17(b) of the Pennsylvania Constitution. That rule indicates that a Judge should not engage in any activity prohibited by law and not violate any of the Cannons of Judicial Ethics. The Board then notes the above Rule violations they are alleging in Counts 1 through 7. Again, there is no such violation whatsoever.

29) There is no post were Judge Cohen is supporting any candidate. He references races and discusses vote tallies and there is one place where he wishes the President and other political leaders happy birthday. But the posts are not supporting a particular candidate or a particular party. That is just showing respect for an elected official who leads the country.

Judge Cohen respectfully requests a hearing before the Hearing Chairman or the full Court where this Motion can be argued and Mr. Stretton can go through each post line by line and show that these are informed and educated posts. The posts are done in the context of extremely informed individual, i.e., Mark B. Cohen, who understands issues, government and democracy at a very high level having served 42 and a half years as a Democratic Representative in the General Assembly of Pennsylvania and now is a sitting Common Pleas Judge. He is

extremely learned and knowledgeable on these types of activities and his posts are meant to inform end educate and no more.

In conclusion, the Respondent, Judge Mark B. Cohen, by his counsel, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, respectfully requests this Honorable Court provide a hearing and argument on the issues raised in this Omnibus Motion and then dismiss the case because the comments of Judge Cohen are protected speech under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution. Judge Cohen still maintains the same basic rights as any other citizen as long as his posts do not interfere with his judicial duties and there is no indication that it has. There is no public outcry concerning comments by Judge Cohen. There are no requests for his recusal. In fact, his comments are learned, useful, informative and do not deal with issues that come before his Court. Judge Cohen is asking that this Honorable Court rule that a Judge can engage in these kinds of informative postings as long as the posts do not interfere with his duties, cause his disqualification, comment on pending cases in his Court or involve bad conduct or bias or prejudice. Judge Cohen respectfully requests that this Complaint be dismissed since this is protected speech and he has properly engaged in the same and not violated any Code of Judicial Conduct or any portion of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Hon. Mark B. Cohen 103 South High Street P.O. Box 3231 West Chester, PA 19381-3231 (610) 696-4243 Attorney I.D. No. 18491

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE:	: DOCKET NO. 1 JD 2023
	:
JUDGE MARK B. COHEN	:
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS	:
1 ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT	:
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY	:

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, certify 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.

3 9/23 Date

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Hon. Mark B. Cohen 103 South High Street P.O. Box 3231 West Chester, PA 19381-3231 (610) 696-4243 Attorney I.D. No. 18491

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE:

Judge Mark B. Cohen Court of Common Pleas 1st Judicial District Philadelphia County

1 JD 2023

COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE OF PENNSYLVANIA

RECEIVED AND FILED

TO: MARK B. COHEN

You are hereby notified that the Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board has determined that there is probable cause to file formal charges against you for conduct proscribed by Article V, § 17(b) and § 18(d)(1) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Code of Judicial Conduct. The Board's counsel will present the case in support of the charges before the Pennsylvania Court of Judicial Discipline.

You have an absolute right to be represented by a lawyer in all proceedings before the Court of Judicial Discipline. Your attorney should file an entry of appearance with the Court of Judicial Discipline within fifteen (15) days of service of this Board Complaint in accordance with C.J.D.R.P. No. 110.

You are hereby notified, pursuant to C.J.D.R.P. No. 302(B), that should you elect to file an omnibus motion, that motion should be filed no later than thirty (30) days after the service of this Complaint in accordance with C.J.D.R.P. No. 411.

You are further hereby notified that within thirty (30) days after the service of this Complaint, if no omnibus motion is filed, or within twenty (20)



days after the dismissal of all or part of the omnibus motion, you may file an Answer admitting or denying the allegations contained in this Complaint in accordance with C.J.D.R.P. No. 413. Failure to file an Answer shall be deemed a denial of all factual allegations in the Complaint.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE:

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Judge Mark B. Cohen	:	
Court of Common Pleas 1 st Judicial District Philadelphia County	:	1 JD 2023
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COMPLAINT

AND NOW, this 23rd day of February, 2023, comes the Judicial Conduct Board of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Board) and files this Board Complaint against Judge Mark B. Cohen, First Judicial District, Philadelphia County, alleging that Judge Cohen has violated the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Code of Judicial Conduct, as more specifically delineated herein.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- Article V, § 18 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania grants to the Board the authority to determine whether probable cause exists to file formal charges against a judicial officer in this Court, and thereafter, to prosecute the case in support of such charges in this Court.
- 2. From January 2, 2018, until the present, Judge Cohen served continuously as a judge of the Court of Common Pleas, First Judicial District, Philadelphia County.
 - i. Presently, Judge Cohen is on leave for an issue unrelated to this Complaint.
- 3. The Board received a report contending that Judge Cohen authored and made improper posts to his personal Facebook page.

- 4. Based on this report, former Board Chief Counsel opened a complaint on his authority against Judge Cohen for investigation.
- 5. Pursuant to Article V, § 18(a)(7) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Board determined that probable cause exists to file formal charges against Judge Cohen in this Court based on his postings to his personal Facebook page.
- 6. Generally speaking, Judge Cohen's Facebook postings at issue consisted of the following: (1) his sympathetic, supportive, or positive views of political figures, living and dead, of the Democratic Party and, generally, of the political "left"; (2) his support for legislation instituted and embraced by the Democratic Party and, generally, the political "left"; (3) his support for policy initiatives or issues embraced by the Democratic Party and, generally, the political figures of the Republican Party and the political "right"; and and (5) his criticism of policy initiatives or the political "right."
 - Judge Cohen was not a candidate for retention or for higher judicial office when he made the improper Facebook posts to his personal Facebook page.
- 7. Judge Cohen's Facebook page is accessible to any member of Facebook.
- 8. Judge Cohen's Facebook page noted his status as a judge, despite the fact that it was a personal Facebook page.

- 9. Judge Cohen's admitted Facebook postings that the Board found to warrant formal charges are set forth as follows in Paragraphs 9(i) through 9(lxvi)¹ and screenshots of same are attached hereto this Board Complaint as Exhibit A(i)-(lxvi), made a part hereof, and incorporated herein as though set forth in full:
 - October 29, 2022, 12:28 p.m. "David DePape, captured Pelosi assailant, continues to gain notoriety as more and more of his extremist posts come to light. It is clear that he is a failed and hateful man capable of many awful things."
 - October 28, 2022, 9:16 p.m. "CNN: David DePape, 42 accused attempted murderer of Paul and Nancy Pelosi, apparently made hateful, bigoted posts against LGBTQ people, Jews, the January 6 Committee, and other right-wing targets. Why am I not surprised?"
 - iii. November 20, 2022, time not listed "Today is President Joe Biden's Birthday. Many people his age are impaired. But he has proven to be an excellent President. His experience enables him, and does not wear him down. I look forward to many more achievements!"
 - iv. November 21, 2022, time not listed "Philly DA Larry Krasner's credibility gained when a federal jury voted to dismiss a claim by former ADA Carlos Vega that Krasner had discriminated against him by age when he fired him. Krasner saw him as flawed, the City said in defense."
 - November 10, 2022, 6:40 p.m. "The victories of Governor-Elect Josh Shapiro & Senator-Elect John Fetterman show Gov Tom Wolf should be credited with improving public respect for Pa. state government. Fetterman first LG to win statewide for other post since 1966."
 - vi. November 9, 2022, 3:22 a.m. "My friend and former House colleague Josh Shapiro, whose father Dr. Steve Shapiro was a classmate of mine at Central High, has been elected Pa's Governor. I have no doubt he is up to the job."
 - vii. November 3, 2022, 7:10 p.m. "MSNBC: Former President Barack Obama: When we vote, we win."

¹ Unless otherwise noted, the quoted text in Paragraphs 9(i)-9(lxvi) was authored personally by Judge Cohen.

- viii. November 2, 2022, 4:43 p.m. "My former legislative colleague Kenyatta Johnson, now completing his 3rd term in the Philly City Council has been found – along with his wife Dawn Chavous – to be not guilty on all charges in federal court today by a jury verdict. A vindication!" In the subsequent posts to this posting, Judge Cohen was asked the question if Councilman Johnson would have his legal bills paid, and Judge Cohen provided the following response: "To the best of my knowledge, no. Friends and admirers can choose to contribute to a defense fund, if he has set one up."
 - ix. September 22, 2022, (approximate) "Philly DA Krasner, in switch of tactics, now demands to testify before Pa House Committee seeking evidence of wrongdoing to begin impeachment proceedings. Good move!"
 - x. September 21, 2022 (approximate), time not listed "MSNBC: Presidential Press Secretary Kanine [sic] Jean-Pierre says Administration has reduced the severity of COVID with widespread vaccinations, but more efforts are needed. She's right, but its wrong to say pandemic is over."
 - September 20, 2022 (approximate), time not listed "Babette Josephs was the most public and persistent fighter for women's rights in Post-Roe Pennsylvania. I would like to see her birthday, August 4, be publicly celebrated as Babette Josephs Day."
 - xii. September 13, 2022, 5:50 p.m. "Ken Starr, independent prosecutor of Bill Clinton, whose overzealousness led to issuing X-rated report on Clinton's sex life, has died at 76. The report led to Clinton's impeachment, but surprisingly led to increase of public support for him."
- xiii. September 5, 2022, 2:47 p.m. "New Deal Labor Secretary Frances Perkins, the first woman to serve as a Cabinet Secretary, is a great leader to remember on Labor Day." The posting includes a photograph of former Secretary Perkins reposted from the "A Mighty GIrl" Facebook page (originally posted September 5, 2022), which includes the following text: "FRANCES PERKINS[,] as U.S. Secretary of Labor and the first woman in the Cabinet, Perkins fought to establish a minimum wage, overtime pay, the 40-hour work week and to end child labor." The posting concludes with further text from the "A Mighty Girl" Facebook page noting that the page is honoring former Secretary Perkins as a labor rights pioneer and a New Deal champion.
- xiv. September 5, 2022, 11:04 a.m. "Philadelphia/Tri-State Labor Day Parade brings back memories of Wendell Young, [III,] father

of the current UFCW leader, Wendell Young[,] IV. Key early events in the union's history happened in my original legislative district, in neighborhoods of East Oak Lane and Olney." The posting also includes a photograph of Mr. Young reposted from the "Bob Ingram" Facebook page. The post includes the following text, originally posted to the "Bob Ingram" Facebook page: "Remembering my late friend the great labor leader Wendell Young 3rd on this Labor Day. He told me, 'Life is all stories,' which I've never forgotten."

- XV. August 4, 2022, 2:51 a.m. "As a young man, I remember journalistic anger at Roger Maris & Eugene McCarthy for becoming national heroes with heroic achievements. John Nichols' hit job against Liz Cheyney [sic] in the The Nation is of the same sad kind." In the midst of the exchange of posts that ensued from this post, Judge Cohen posted the following: "I believe from personal experience that people can and do change their views over time. As a judge, I am not permitted to endorse or otherwise back any candidate for anything. But I strongly disbelieve that good works by anyone should subject them to harsh criticism while those who do far fewer good things remain totally ignored."
- xvi. August 1, 2022, 9:26 a.m. "The killing of Osama Ben [sic] Laden's number two by drone in downtown Kabul at the age of 71 shows intense & nuanced focus of this Administration on the national interest. Withdrawing troops is clearly not the same as accepting terrorism."
- xvii. October 24, 4:20 p.m. "A plea for more domestic spending and less military spending." The posting reposts a photograph of a fighter jet, with the headline "Just in case you didn't know what different parts of fighter jet [sic] are called." There are lines to different parts of the fighter jet that indicate which domestic spending cuts allegedly paid for that part of the fighter jet. For example, the line to the nose of the fighter jet indicates that Medicare cuts paid for that part of the plane. This photograph was originally posted by the "Rebecca Hains, Author" Facebook page on September 8, 2022.
- xviii. September 1, 2022, 5:59 p.m. "There's a lot of anti-city, anti-NYC, and anti-intellectual people in this world. A teacher in Oklahoma is being threatened with loss of her teaching certification for giving her students the phone number for online books from the Brooklyn public library. A once famous book was titled 'A Tree Grows in Brooklyn;' minds grow there too." The posting includes a reposting of a photograph of a letter sent by Oklahoma Secretary of Education Ryan Walters regarding the

firing of High School English Teacher Summer Boismier and his intent to request the Oklahoma State Board of Education to revoke Ms. Bosimier's teaching certificate. This photograph was originally posted to the "Warner West" Facebook page on August 31, 2022. The post concludes with text reposted from the "Warner West" Facebook page that recounted Ms. Boismier's story.

- xix. September 1, 2022, 7:20 a.m. "An example of the madness of book banning." The posting includes a reposting of a photograph of students in a classroom with the following text: "At George Dawson Middle School[,] an autobiography co-authored by George Dawson at 103 has been banned. Mr. Dawson was the grandson of a slave. He learned to read at 98. His book is an inspiration to all readers except it can't be read at the school that bears his name." This photograph was originally posted by the "Andi Cude" and "True Blue Party" Facebook pages on August 31, 2022.
- xx. August 30, 2022, 8:56 a.m. "Canada requires a license to own firearms, and passing a test on firearm safety. Automatic weapons are prohibited. Murders in Canada (38.3 million people) are only about 50% higher than in Philadelphia (1.7 million)."
- August 29, 2022, 8:55 p.m. "With allies among the leaders of xxi. both parties, I spearheaded Pennsylvania's pioneering 2015 law against the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement seeking [to] deprive Israel of foreign trade on a state by state basis. A federal appeals court has recently ruled in favor of the constitutionality of a similar law in Arkansas." The posting includes a link to an opinion article from the National Jewish Advocacy center bearing the following title: "A Federal Appeals Court Just Struck a Huge Blow to the BDS Movement." The post contains a comment from the "Ed Doogan" Facebook page which states the following: "So take away from the Palestinians the only nonviolent way they have to pressure Israel and when they resort to violence[,] give Israel an excuse to kill more Palestinian men, women, and children. This is a terrible law and as a judge[,] you should be ashamed of yourself."
- xxii. August 5, 2022, 9:19 p.m. "Inquirer: Unemployment falls to 3.5%, tying for the lowest since 1969. More people are employed in US than ever before, showing a very strong economy and strengthening Social Security System. It's time for critics to reevaluate this Administration."
- xxiii. August 3, 2022, 9:39 p.m. "Senator Amy Klobuchar predicts Sen. Kirsten [sic] Sinema will be on board with Inflation Reduction

Act next week, & it will pass Senate, lowering annual deficit, fighting climate change, & reducing prescription costs. A victory for fiscal responsibility."

- August 3, 2022, 1:13 a.m. "By a 59% to 41% vote, Kansas xxiv. voters rejected a constitutional amendment that would have allowed the legislature to ban abortion. High turnout took place on 100 degree day, and sent a message that even conservative states are not on board with US Supreme Court reversal of Roe v. Wade." The posting reposts an article from Apnews.com entitled "Kansas voters resoundingly protect their access to abortion." This article was originally posted by the "Stephen Drachler" Facebook page on August 3, with the following statement from that page: "When Kansas speaks, the nation will be listening. Kansas voters repudiated the radical U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday as they rejected a Constitutional amendment that would have opened to door [sic] to the Legislature banning abortion in the Jayhawk state. It wasn't close 60-40 with a record turnout in 100 degree weather. Independent voters turned out in droves to vote in a primary election where they normally could not vote."
- XXV. August 2, 2022, 3:28 p.m. "A plea for credit unions, which often offer lower fees, lower cost loans, higher interest rates and better customer service than commercial banks do." The post also reposts a photograph that contains the following text: "Women should remove their money from banks. Seriously. Every penny. Use credit unions. Let's stop them from using our money to pay for lobbyists that take our rights away." This photograph was originally posted by the "Addicting Info" Facebook page on July 13, 2022.
- xxvi. August 2, 2022, 3:23 p.m. "Truth!" This posting also contains a reposting of a photograph of a tweet made by Nina Turner, a former Democratic Ohio State Senator, which contains the following text: "There's nothing moderate about letting our planet burn, allowing our food air & water to be poisoned, or letting people go without food and shelter. These are not moderate positions." This photograph was originally posted by the "Corinna Bloom" Facebook page on July 19.
- XXVII. July 30, 2022, 6:06 p.m. "Despite the support of Baer, Gov. Tom Wolf, and many others, the legislature still has not raised the minimum wage above the current \$7.25 level. When Pa. raised the minimum wage to \$7.15 (10 cents less than the federal level which ultimately followed), under my leadership in 2006, I immediately advocated that it should soon go up to \$8.00. Even after 16 years, and a \$15.00 an hour minimum wage in NJ, NY,

California and other states, the minimum wage in Pa and the USA has remained stagnant. The posting includes a reposting of a photograph originally posted on July 30, 2021, on Judge Cohen's Facebook page, that bears the text "Legislative critic John Baer endorses higher Pa minimum wage. He says it would be a big step for legislative credibility and help a million people."

- xxviii. July 28, 2022, 10:29 p.m. "Texas calls itself the Lone Star state, due to its brief experience as a separate country, after winning independence from Mexico. But in these days of five star ratings, and Texas' passage of a variety of dubious laws, being a one star takes on a new – and accurate – meaning." The post includes a reposting of a photograph of a cartoon depicting a highway and a billboard that reads: "Welcome to Texas, the Lone Star State – based on recent reviews" and a five-star rating system with only one star filled. This photograph was originally posted by the "Ava Levin Leas" Facebook page on July 27, 2022. In the comment discussion that follows, one commenter stated "I prefer originality. Texas should again become a one star country." Judge Cohen replied, "You are not alone!"
 - xxix. July 28, 2022, 7:09 p.m. "Joe Manchin seems to be retreating a bit on opposition to legislation dealing with climate change and investing in human infrastructures for social services. We'll soon see if his possible change of heart leads anywhere."
 - XXX. July 27, 2022, 5:50 p.m. "Prophetic words from the Rev. Billy Graham 41 years ago." The post includes a reposting of a photograph of the former Reverend Graham with the following quotation, attributed to him: "I don't want to see religious bigotry in any form. It would disturb me if there was a wedding between the religious fundamentalists and the political right. The hard right has no interest in religion except to manipulate it." The photograph was originally posted by the "Chester Hitchcock" Facebook page on July 26, 2022.
 - xxxi. July 26, 2022, 5:20 p.m. "NYT: Former Philadelphians Bruce Marks and Mike Roman were key players in alternate elector scheme. At least the poor records of Philly sports teams did not disqualify them. Marks is stepping up to defend his role, citing Hawaii in 1960." This posting led to an intense comment argument between Mr. Marks, who was, in fact, one of Judge Cohen's Facebook friends, and other individuals who were his Facebook friends, including Marc Stier, who is a well-known progressive political figure. Some of these persons accused Mr. Marks, who is an attorney, of professional misconduct and criminal conduct. Judge Cohen attempted to bow out of the conversation at one point, by stating the following: "And as a

judge, I am limited in the degree to which I can comment on political actors, attorneys or judges in court proceedings."

- xxxii. July 26, 2022, 8:13 a.m. "Words of wise advice from Canada!" The posting includes reposting of a photograph of a tweet from "Aaron Hoyland," which contains the following text: "In Canada, our schools have more than one door too. We have folks struggling with mental illness. We watch the same movies, listen to the same music and play the same violent video games as Americans. And, since Columbine, the US had 200 school shootings. We had 3. It's the guns." This photograph was originally posted on June 2, 2022 by the "David Reid" Facebook page.
- November 1, 2022, 10:08 a.m. "Did you know that both xxxiii. Frankenstein and Dracula were played by union members? Neither did I." The post includes a reposting of a photograph of the Boris Karloff-version of Frankenstein and the Bela Lugosiversion of Dracula, with the following text: "DID YOU KNOW? ... Frankenstein & Dracula were union organizers? Boris Karloff, who played Frankenstein, along with Bela Lugosi who played Dracula, were founding members of the actors union, Screen Actors Guild (SAG). Both men actively recruited Actors and Actresses to join the then unrecognized Union (between 1933 and 1937). It was not uncommon to see Karloff in full monster makeup, handing out applications to join the Screen Actors Guild." This photograph was originally posted by the "John Meyerson" Facebook page on November 1, 2022, with the following additional text: "Solidarity Forever!"
- xxxiv. September 18, 2022 (approximate), time not listed "Philadelphia Museum of Art stayed open yesterday during a oneday warning strike. Bad news for labor!"
- xxxv. September 14, 2022, 3:30 p.m. "Record profits are undermining tough corporate bargaining stances." The post also includes a photo with the following statement posted from the "Labor 411" Facebook page: "BNSF is the largest rail company in the US. Last year they had a net income of \$8.8B. They have 35k workers. If they kept half of their profit and split the rest with all employees everyone could receive a \$125k RAISE. Instead BNSF is cutting sick days. This is why they strike."
- xxxvi. September 14, 2022, 2:05 p.m. "Bad news for Texas kids and school boards. Perhaps good news for Texas educators' future pay raises and working conditions." The post contains a photo of an article from the Houston Chronicle bearing the headline "Poll:

77% of Texas teachers want to quit" that was posted from the Facebook page of "Johnny Mitchell."

- xxxvii. September 11, 2022, 2:40 a.m. "Bruce Springsteen is also a fan of unions, as are not about 60% of our country." The posting also includes a photograph of Bruce Springsteen reposted from the "Jeff Rechenbach" Facebook page (originally posted on September 5, 2022), bearing the following quotation attributed to Springsteen: "Unions have been the only powerful and effective voice working people have ever had in the history of this country." The post concludes with the following additional text reposted from the "Jeff Rechenbach" Facebook page: "The Boss understands the value of unions. On this day set aside for the recognition of workers, let's remember it is the Labor Movement that built the middle class in our nation."
- xxxviii. September 11, 2022, 2:18 a.m. "A strong endorsement of the labor movement of his time from famed defense attorney Clarence Darrow." The posting also includes a photograph of Clarence Darrow reposted from the "Ron Klink" Facebook page (originally posted on September 10, 2022), bearing the following quotation attributed to Darrow: "With all their faults, trade-unions have done more for humanity than any other organization of men that ever existed. They have done more for decency, for honesty, for education, for the betterment of the race, for the developing of character in man, than any other association of men." The post concludes with the following additional text reposted from the "Ron Klink" Facebook page: "I believe this with all my heart and soul."
 - xxxix. September 10, 2022, 4:27 p.m. "Good news for empowering people. Too bad for Superman." The posting also includes a cartoon reposted from the "Glen Williams" Facebook page, which depicts a child speaking to an obviously-dejected Superman; the child states "Sorry Superman[.] My new heroes are union members. They've been fighting for me and my family our whole lives."
 - xl. September 5, 2022, 4:53 p.m. "Farm workers are vital to our food supply. Thanks to Mary Rose Cunningham for sharing." The posting also includes a photograph of a painting reposted from the "Jonathan Zasloff" Facebook page (originally posted September 4, 2022) depicting farm workers carrying bushels of food with the text "Honoring the immigrants on Labor Day who put food on our tables" on the photograph.
 - xli. September 5, 2022, 11:30 a.m. "Another good Labor Day Greeting!" The posting also includes a photograph reposted from

the "Mike McDonough" Facebook page, which depicts men at an apparent labor organization meeting with the following text: "This long holiday weekend has been brought to you by the blood, sweat, and tears of the labor movement."

- xlii. September 5, 2022, 11:18 a.m. "More well thought-out Labor Day greetings!" The posting also includes a photograph reposted from the political Facebook page of Pennsylvania State Senator Tina Tartaglione (D-Philadelphia) (originally posted September 5, 2022), which depicts a cartoon of happy workers of various professions, i.e., a cook, a nurse, a fireman, with the following text from Senator Tartaglione: "During Labor Day we honor and celebrate the contributions of America's workers and the fights that got us here. American was built by the middle class, and the middle class was built by unions."
- xliii. September 4, 2022, 6:15 p.m. "Tomorrow is Labor Day. As you enjoy it, remember why workers successfully fought to have it established during the Presidency of Grover Cleveland." The posting includes a reposting of a photograph originally posted on the "John Meyerson" Facebook page that same day. The photograph depicts a wall with the graffiti "Never Cross a Picket Line. Class War," painted on the wall. The post concludes with the following text originally posted to the "John Meyerson" Facebook page: "Happy Labor Day! We must never forget the reason we celebrate the sacrifices that workers have made in their fight for social and economic justice! We still have a long way to go!"
- xliv. July 28, 2022, time not listed "This speaks for the views of many workers." The posting contains a reposting of a photograph of a tweet from "Blondie," which contains the following text: "Jobs need to understand that the ONLY way to make me feel appreciated is to pay me what I'm worth, that's it. No amount of 'lunch is on me', T Shirts or 'team building' is going to cut it." The photograph was originally posted by the "More Perfect Union" Facebook page on July 21, 2022.
- xIv. July 28, 2022, 6:44 p.m. "A very good point!" The posting includes a reposting of a photograph of a cartoon with Lisa Simpson making a speech, with a projection screen behind her. The screen bears the following text: "Trickle down economics has never gotten Billionaires to spread the wealth. That's what unions are for." This photograph was originally posted on the "Americans for Tax Fairness" Facebook page on July 26, 2022.
- xlvi. August 30, 2022, 1:14 p.m. "Still another take on the student loan debt repayment plan." The posting includes a reposting of a

cartoon of a man at a trolley track switch and five people tied to the tracks on one of the track branches where they trolley is headed. Behind the trolley are the bodies of a number of people who the trolley had already run over. The man at the train track switch states "But if I divert the trolley now[,] that would be unfair to all the people it's already killed."

- xlvii. August 29, 2022, 11:10 a.m. "Another take from a supporter of student debt cancellation!" The posting includes a reposting of a photograph bearing the following statement: "If you're mad about student loan forgiveness, I feel bad for you son. I got 99 problems but being weirdly bitter that life is getting slightly easier for other people ain't one." This photograph was posted originally by the "Marti Murphy" Facebook page on August 28, 2022.
- xlviii. August 28, 2022, 7:46 a.m. "My former colleague in Harrisburg wades into theology to support debt forgiveness for education loans." The posting includes a reposting of a photograph bearing the following statement: "If you're a Christian and you're big mad about the possibility of student loan debt being cancelled, let me remind you that the entirety of your faith is built upon a debt you couldn't pay that someone stepped in and paid for you." This photograph was originally posted on August 27, 2022, by the "Brett Cott" Facebook page.
 - xlix. August 26, 2022, 2:09 p.m. "One more way to say that reducing student loan debt makes a lot of sense." The posting also includes a reposting of a photograph of a religious painting of Jesus miraculously distributing the loaves and fishes to the multitude with the following text: "Jesus's [sic] miracle of the loaves and fishes was a slap in the face to all the people who brought their own lunch." This photograph was originally posted on August 25, 2022, by the "Bob Kefauver" Facebook page.
 - August 26, 2022, 12:49 p.m. "Another Facebook friend with a big [heart emoji]!" The post is a reposting of a post made by the "Kiernan Majerus-Collins" Facebook page on August 26, 2022, which states the following: "I paid off my relatively modest undergraduate student loans a few years ago, and I'm thrilled that at least some other people won't have to do the same. Higher education – which benefits our whole society – should be free."
 - II. August 25, 2022, 1:34 p.m. "I agree with this!" The posting also includes a reposting of a photograph with the following text on it: "I worked hard to pay off my student loans, others should have to too! I swam across that river, how dare they build a

bridge!" The photograph was originally posted on August 25, 2022 by the "Warren Fretwell" Facebook page.

- August 13, 2022, 6:40 p.m. "Former US Secretary of Labor Robert Reich is absolutely right on this." The post includes a reposting of a photograph of former Secretary Reich with the following quotation, attributed to him: "A decent society wouldn't push millions of students into debt. It would recognize that higher education isn't mainly a personal investment; it's a public good." This photograph was originally posted by the "Steve Sherman" Facebook page on August 12, 2022.
- liii. October 15, 2021, time not listed "Rick Wilson, MSNBC, urging more vigor in January 6 investigation: 'Unpunished terrorism is just a practice run."
- liv. October 19, 2021, time not listed –"The state that gave us Estes Kefauver and two Al Gores is now trying to make knowledge of black history illegal. Shameless retrogression!" This posting includes a newspaper opinion piece that criticized the passage of an anti-Critical Race Theory bill in Tennessee.
- Iv. November 6, 2021, 3:11 p.m. "One year ago, our country voted for massive change. We are starting to get it, but more can be done."
- Ivi. November 7, 2021, 11:01 p.m. "Takeaways from Four Seasons doc: (1) The Trump Presidential campaign was out of money, and the Four Seasons was willing to host the press conference for free; (2) a flood of hate calls and ridicule led to company choice to develop PR campaign."
- Ivii. November 14, 2021, 8:44 p.m. "6.2% inflation hurts those with salaries or pensions. It encourages workers to unionize & those with pensions to seek gains."
- Iviii. November 15, 2021, 3:14 p.m. "Latest figures in contested court races of Philly judges show little change: Dumas up 18,801 for Commonwealth Court, McLaughlin down for Supreme Court by 28,252. Barring discovery of major error, Dumas & Kevin Brobson to win." A person responded to this post, stating, "So sad for [McLaughlin] and Lane."
- lix. November 17, 2021, 7:36 p.m. "President Joe Biden eloquently advocates for his Build Back Better Plan." In addition to Judge Cohen's commentary, he re-posted a post from President Joe Biden, part of which is immediately visible on his Facebook page, as follows: "I ran for president believing it was time to rebuild the backbone of this nation – working people and the middle class. To rebuild the economy from the botto....."

- Ix. November 18, 2021, 11:33 p.m. "Good night Kevin McCarthy. Good night moon. No matter how long Kevin talks, we'll have House passage of Build Back Better soon."
- Ixi. November 19, 2021, 7:52 a.m. "At 8:00 a.m., US House returns to session, delayed by Kevin McCarthy speech of record length, to pass Build Back Better bill and improve many, many American lives."
- Ixii. November 19, 2021, 3:22 p.m. "President <u>President Joe Biden's</u> [sic] Build Back Better Bill passed the US House this morning. Chuck Schumer says he wants passage by Christmas."
 - a. In response to another poster's question about whether the bill would actually help many people after the "moderate" Ds and Rs "gut it," Judge Cohen posted "I think so, but we'll see." The other poster remarked, "I guess a little help is still better than zero. Progress in a democracy is so slow," to which Judge Cohen responded, "Yes it is, unfortunately!"
- Ixiii. November 20, 2021, 12:04 a.m. "Joe Biden turns 79 today. Happy Birthday Mr. President! Enjoy your five days a week of workouts!"
- Ixiv. November 23, 2021, 11:14 a.m. "David Morrison [another poster] says the JFK assassination was a major transition for his life. In tribute, he posts this excerpt from a speech Kennedy was prepared to give in Dallas had he lived." Judge Cohen then re-posted David Morrison's November 22, 2021 posting of the undelivered Kennedy speech, part of which is immediately visible on Judge Cohen's page as follows: "Neither the fanatics nor the faint-hearted are needed. And our duty as a Party is not to our Party alone, but to the nation, and, indeed, to all mankind. Our d...."
- Ixv. November 23, 2021, 4:00 p.m. "Lori Dumas now leads for Commonwealth Court by 22,227. Her opponent Drew Compton conceded today. Congratulations to my fellow Philadelphia Common Pleas Judge! Her victory is well-deserved."
- Ixvi. November 26, 2021, 9:42 a.m. "Organizing for progressive change can be very difficult. Longtime activist Marc Stier and his commenters discuss the reasons why." In addition to Judge Cohen's commentary, he re-posted a post from Marc Stier, part of which is immediately visible on his page, as follows: "Listening to a call about progressive messaging on taxes. Our problem is not that majority doesn't agree with us. Our problem is mobilizing people and encou...."

CHARGES

Count 1 - Violation of Canon 1, Rule 1.1

- By virtue of some or all of the conduct alleged in paragraphs 6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon 1, Rule 1.1 of the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- 11. Canon 1, Rule 1.1 states the following:

Canon 1, Rule 1.1. Compliance with the Law.

A judge shall comply with the law, including the Code of Judicial Conduct.

- 12. The definition of "Law" in the "Terminology" section of the Code includes, *inter alia*, statutes, decisional law, and Supreme Court Rules and directives, including the Code itself.
- By virtue of some of all of his Facebook postings as described above in paragraphs
 6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth in Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated the Code
 of Judicial Conduct, as set forth below.

Count 2(a) and (b) - Violation of Canon 1, Rule 1,2

- 14. By virtue of some or all of the conduct alleged in paragraphs 6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon 1, Rule 1.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- 15. Canon 1, Rule 1.2 states the following:

Canon 1, Rule 1.2. Compliance with the Law.

A judge shall act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary and shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety.

16. By virtue of some of all of his Facebook postings as described above in paragraphs6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon
1, Rule 1.2 in that his conduct failed to promote public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary.

17. By virtue of some or all of his Facebook postings as described above in paragraphs
6 through 9(Ixvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon
1, Rule 1.2 in that his conduct failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of
impropriety.

Count 3 - Violation of Canon 1, Rule 1.3

- 18. By virtue of some or all of the conduct alleged in paragraphs 6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon 1, Rule 1.3 of the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- 19. Canon 1, Rule 1.3 states the following:

Canon 1, Rule 1.3. Avoiding Abuse of the Prestige of Judicial Office.

A judge shall not abuse the prestige of judicial office to advance the personal or economic interests of the judge or others, or allow others to do so.

20. By virtue of some of all of his Facebook postings as described above in paragraphs 6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon 1, Rule 1.3 in that his conduct abused the prestige of his judicial office to advance his own personal or economic interests or the personal or economic interests of others who are referenced in his Facebook postings.

Count 4 – Violation of Canon 3, Rule 3.1(C)

21. By virtue of some or all of the conduct alleged in paragraphs 6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon 3, Rule 3.1(C) of the Code of Judicial Conduct. 22. Canon 3, Rule 3.1(C) states the following:

Canon 3, Rule 3.1. Extrajudicial Activities in General.

Judges shall regulate their extrajudicial activities to minimize the risk of conflict with their judicial duties and to comply with all provisions of this Canon. However a judge shall not...(C) participate in activities that would reasonably appear to undermine the judge's independence, integrity, or impartiality.

23. By virtue of some of all of his Facebook postings as described above in paragraphs

6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon

3, Rule 3.1(C) in that his extrajudicial conduct in making the Facebook postings

reasonably appeared to undermine his independence, integrity, and impartiality.

Count 5 - Violation of Canon 3, Rule 3.7(A)

24. By virtue of some or all of the conduct alleged in paragraphs 6 through 9(lxvi)

and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon 3, Rule 3.7(A) of

the Code of Judicial Conduct.

25. Canon 3, Rule 3.7(A) states the following:

Canon 3, Rule 3.7. Participation in Educational, Religious, Charitable, Fraternal or Civic Organizations and Activities.

- (A) Avocational activities. Judges may write, lecture, teach and speak on non-legal subjects and engage in the arts, sports, and other social and recreational activities, if such avocational activities do not detract from the dignity of their office or interfere with the performance of their judicial duties.
- 26. By virtue of some of all of his Facebook postings as described above in paragraphs
 6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon
 3, Rule 3.7(A) in that his extrajudicial conduct in making the Facebook postings
 detracted from the dignity of his office.

Count 6 - Violation of Canon 4, Rule 4.1(A)(3)

- 27. By virtue of some or all of the conduct alleged in paragraph 9(xv) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A(xv), Judge Cohen violated Canon 4, Rule 4.1(A)(3) of the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- 28. Canon 4, Rule 4.1(A)(3) states the following:

Canon 4, Rule 4.1. Political and Campaign Activities of Judges and Judicial Candidates in General.

- (A) Except as permitted by Rules 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4, a judge or a judicial candidate shall not ... (3) publicly endorse or publicly oppose a candidate for any public office[.]
- 29. By virtue of his Facebook posting as described above in paragraph 9(xv) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A(xv), Judge Cohen violated Canon 4, Rule 4.1(A)(3) in that his extrajudicial conduct in making the Facebook posting constituted an endorsement of former U.S. Representative Liz Cheney, who was then a candidate for re-election, by Judge Cohen's attempt to criticize her detractor in the media.

Count 7 - Violation of Canon 4, Rule 4.1(A)(11)

- 30. By virtue of some or all of the conduct alleged in paragraphs 6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon 4, Rule 4.1(A)(11) of the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- 31. Canon 4, Rule 4.1(A)(11) states the following:

Canon 4, Rule 4.1. Political and Campaign Activities of Judges and Judicial Candidates in General.

(A) Except as permitted by Rules 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4, a judge or a judicial candidate shall not ... (11) engage in any political activity on behalf of a political organization or candidate for public office except on behalf of measures to improve the law, the legal system, or the administration of justice[.] 32. By virtue of some of all of his Facebook postings as described above in paragraphs
6 through 9(lxvi) and set forth at Board's Exhibit A, Judge Cohen violated Canon
4, Rule 4.1(A)(11) in that his conduct constituted political activity on behalf of a political organization, namely the Democratic Party.

<u>Count 8 – Violation of Article V, § 17(b) of the Constitution of the</u> Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

- 33. By virtue of some or all of the conduct set forth above, Judge Cohen violated Article V, § 17(b) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 34. Article V, § 17(b) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania states,in pertinent part, the following:

Article V, § 17(b) [Derivative Violation]

Justices and judges shall not engage in any activity prohibited by law and shall not violate any canon of legal or judicial ethics prescribed by the Supreme Court.

- 35. A violation of the Code constitutes an automatic, derivative violation of Article V,§ 17(b) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 36. By virtue of some or all of the conduct set forth above, Judge Cohen violated the following provisions of the Code: Canon 1, Rule 1.1, Rule 1.2, and Rule 1.3; Canon 3, Rule 3.1(C) and Rule 3.7(A); Canon 4, Rule 4.1(A)(3) and Rule 4.1(A)(11).
- 37. By virtue of his violations of the Code as set forth above, Judge Cohen violated Article V § 17(b) of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

WHEREFORE, Mark B. Cohen, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, First Judicial District, Philadelphia County, is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Article V, § 18(d)(1).

By:

Respectfully submitted,

MELISSA L. NORTON Chief Counsel

DATE: February 23, 2023

James P. Kleman, Jr. Senior Deputy Counsel Pa. Supreme Court ID No. 87637 Judicial Conduct Board Pennsylvania Judicial Center 601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500 Harrisburg, PA 17106 (717) 234-7911

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE:

Judge Mark B. Cohen	:	
Court of Common Pleas	:	1 JD 2023
1 st Judicial District	1	
Philadelphia County	:	
Philadelphia Councy		
	•	

By:

VERIFICATION

I, James P. Kleman, Jr., Senior Deputy Counsel to the Judicial Conduct Board, verify that the Judicial Conduct Board found probable cause to file the formal charges contained in the *BOARD COMPLAINT*. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Respectfully submitted,

MELISSA L. NORTON Chief Counsel

Date: February 23, 2023

4

James P. Klemon, Jr.

James P. Kleman, Jr. Senior Deputy Counsel Pa. Supreme Court ID No. 87637 Judicial Conduct Board Pennsylvania Judicial Center 601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500 P.O. Box 62525 Harrisburg, PA 17106 (717) 234-7911

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE:

	•	
Judge Mark B. Cohen	:	
Court of Common Pleas	:	1 JD 2023
1 st Judicial District	:	
Philadelphia County	:	
	:	

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the *Case Records Public* Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Submitted by:

Signature:

Name:

Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania me

MES P. KLEMAN, JR. Deputy Counsel

Attorney No.:

87637

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE:

Judge Mark B. Cohen	:	
Court of Common Pleas	:	1 JD 2023
1 st Judicial District	:	1 30 2011
Philadelphia County	:	

PROOF OF SERVICE

In compliance with Rule 122 of the Court of Judicial Discipline Rules of Procedure, on February 23, 2023, a copy of the Board's foregoing Complaint was sent by UPS Overnight to Judge Cohen's counsel, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, who agreed to accept service, at the following address:

> Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire 103 South High Street P.O. Box 3231 West Chester, PA 19381-3231

> > By:

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: February 23, 2023

James P. Kleman, Jr. Senior Deputy Counsel Pa. Supreme Court ID No. 87637 Judicial Conduct Board Pennsylvania Judicial Center 601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500 P.O. Box 62525 Harrisburg, PA 17106 (717) 234-7911

Board's Exhibit A I – LXVI

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← Mark's post

Mark B. Cohen

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D

Today is President Joe Biden's 80th Birthday. Many people his age are impaired. But he has proven to be an excellent President. His wide experience enables him, and does not wear him down. I look forward to many more achievements!

 \mathbf{Q}_{5}

00 17

凸 17



Dave Callen Mark: most folks have no comprehension of the pressures and dynamics of a job like his — look at the toll it has taken on Clinton, Bush, and Obama. And yet this guy keeps marching on in his 80's.



on Sun Like 🙆 2

Gary J. Wasserson You have to admit, Biden is guilty of:

Being a caring, loving family man

Being compassionate

Being consumed with America and it's greatest needs.

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Mark B 14h · S

公8

Mark B. Cohen

Philly DA Larry Krasner's credibility gained when a federal jury voted to dismiss a claim by former ADA Carlos Vega that Krasner had discriminated against him by age when he fired him. Krasner saw him as flawed, the City said in defense.

Q1

8 🛈



Jay A. Mccalla Vega's run for office was likely a game of spite fueled by the pernicious cynicism of the FOP. A dirty chapter in Philly politics.

13 hrs Like



Q1

Mark B. Cohen

The victories of Governor-Elect Josh Shapiro & Senator-Elect John Fetterman show Gov Tom Wolf should be credited with improving public respect for Pa. state government. Fetterman first LG to win statewide for other post since 1966.

1 Comment

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A Share

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03

\$

Fred Gusoff Was that Raymond Shafer? Like 4h Edited

03 Like





A-VII











rot

Ken Starr, independent prosecutor of Bill Clinton, whose overzealousness led to issuing X-rated report on Clinton's sex life, has died at 76. The report led to Clinton's impeachment, but surprisingly led to increase of public support for him.

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Like In.

Mark B. Cohen September 5 - Ø

New Deal Labor Secretary Frances Perkins, the First woman to serve as a Cabinet Secretary, is a great leader to remember on Labor Day.

PERKINS As U.S. Secretary of Lobor and the first woman in the Cabinet, Perkins fought to establish a minimum wage. overtime pay the 40-hour work week and to end child lobor.



A Mighty Girl 🕏 Beptember 8 🛛 🕲

View 2 previous comments Pat Newcomb

> 1 titut fre

in recognition of Labor Day, we're honoring labor rights pioneer and New Deal champion Frances Perkins -- who served as U.S. Secretary of Labor throughout Preside See more



3 Comments 11 Shares

D Like

A Share

A-XIII



Philadeiphila / Tri-State Labor Day Parade brings back memories of Wendell Young III, father of the current UFCW leader. Wendell Young IV. Key early events in the union's history happened in my original legislative district, in neighborhoods of East Oak Lane and Olney.



Bob Ingram September B 📢

Remembering my late friend the great labor leader Wendell Young 3rd on this Labor Day. He to dime, "Life is all stories," which live never forgotten.

005

1 Comment 1 Share

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C) Like

🗘 Share

Gerry Kosinski

Proud graduate and former teacher at North Catholic, my alma mater. His world outlook was shaped by the Oblates there and the Jesuits at St. Joseph's University. Elected to head his union at age 23.

Like in Edited



otos



Florence Buckley To view Cheney as a hero because of the sole act to defy the destruction by Trump. is to ignore the rest of her life and actions to cement an ultra conservative world view. A nit job? 0 5

Like 140

677

Mark B, Cohen Florence Buckley I believe from personal experience that people can and do change their views over time. As a judge, i am not permitted to endorse or otherwise back any candidate for anything. But I strongly disbelieve that good works by anyone should subject them to harsh criticism while those who do far fewer good things remain totally ignored.

Like 14a

Harold Rosenthal

Mark B. Cohen Correct on, Mark, I never say right. One, such as Liz Cheney. who sacrifices the possibility of her entire career, rather than support Trump as the others do, deserves the metal of honor for he ping to protect our democracy. Now there, Judge, I'm not suggesting you support her for political office. How about for that metal?

Like 142

View 16 more replies

Brendan Skwire

I'm no fan of Cheney's politics, but she is doing righteous work with the 16 committee. I typ'cally like Nicho's, but he needs how to read the freakin' room. Like 14m



Dave Callen If we win White House in 24, a place should be made for her-Like Has

64

02

Harold Rosenthal

Dave Callen I believe democracy is best served by the tension of two groups whose goal is to improve our country but suggest different means. We need the type of Republican Party Cheney and few others who claim that party title support. Despite what ma... See more

Like 31.0



Dave Callen Only if it's in the vicinity of the 9th circle of held. Like 14.5

4 View I more reply

Susan McLeer Both of you were in Grant Parki Awe, love, and appreciation to you, Mark, and you

НъЗ.

8ł.

Like 140



Like *1.9

Like 14.2

Susan McLeer I was in Chicago not as a delegate but as a supporter of Gene McCarthy, I arranged to bail out those the police arrested for being involved. That included New York McCarthy delegates. They had gone to caucus during the Convention. When the... See more 0 3

Mark B. Cohen Harold Rosenthal I just tearned something new! You ought to write or dictate memoirs.

A-XV (3pgs)

O

Patricia Hughes-Piper I live in Wyoming and we will end up being represented by Hageman who is running against ner. The Cheney name causes me an involuntary gag reaction. I am glad she did the right thing. Hageman is Trumplan trash. Like TEN **Harold Rosenthal** Mark, Were you angered at your parents? Both actively supported Gene McCarthy. I believe your dad may have been a delegate. Die 144 Mark B. Cohen Harold Rosenthal No Hall I rooted for Roger Maris, and started to campaign for Eugene McCarthy in 1967. As an intern for Bill Green in 1967, Fattended a meeting of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and McCarthy's walk out from it. I was present when he told reporters, after hearing testimony from Dean Rusk, "There's only one thing we can do: take it to the people," I was there with you and my father in Chicago; I marched in Grant park with both you and my parents. Your comments misread what i said. C: Lake 11. Carole Ann Comelius Harold Rosenthal Mr Cohen has not said he is angry but remembers the anger of the media and compares this to Nichols. 01 Like 147 **David Stein** This conversation takes me back to when i first followed any election from the eyes of an 11 year old. If I were an adult in 1965, I would have supported any Democratic candidate who would have gotten us out of that awful war. like 14v: Harold Rosenthal Mark B. Cohen Sorry to have misread your comments i remember that wak with the McCarthy Delegates as they left the Convention after Humphrey became the nominee. We walked between two groups of young people about the same age. On the park side were the clean for Gene youth with love in their eyes. In the street side were soldiers with fixed bayonets and fear in their eyes. If it wasn't for the singing led by the performer, who had played Tevyua, whose name I don't now remember, someone may have set off the sold ers and we would all have been killed. Like 14 Harold Rosenthal Mark, I now remember. The person who led us in singing which saved us from possibly being beyoneted to death, was Theodore Bike. Like 14: **Carole Ann Cornelius** Many of us are uneasy with Cheney despite our support for her battle against trumpism. 01 Like 14w Jeanne Doyle Carole Ann Comelius When I think of Cherey the phrase "a broken clock is right twice a day" comes to mind. OA Like 14% Florence Buckley To view Cheney as a hero because of the sole act to defy the destruction by Trump. is to ignore the rest of her life and actions to cement an uitra conservative word view. A hit job? Like 14w

A-XV (3pgs)

Mark B. Cohen Aut.ml -O The killing of Osama Ben Laden's number two by drone in downtown Kabul at the age of 71 shows intense & nuanced focus of this Administration on the national interest. Withdrawing troops is clearly not the same as accepting terrorism. 33 16 Comments, 1 Share 0 12 \$ Share D' Like zb View 3 previous comments Patricia Ewing The withdrawal was messy but B'den inherited the Doha agreement and the timeline. Trump gave the Taliban Afghanistan in February 2020. 34 0 Like 144





Mark B. Cohen September 1 📢

There's a lot of anti-city, anti-NYC, and anti-intellectual people in this world. A teacher in Okianoma is being threatened with loss of her teaching certification for giving her students the phone number for online books from the Brooklyn public Pbrary. A once famous book was titled "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn;" minds grow there too.



Ryan Walters Office of the Secretary of Education State of Oklahoms

Okishoma State Board of Educations

In light of recent events leading to the subsequent firing of Norman High School English Teacher Summer Boamler, I am asking the Glushoma State Board of Education to revoke her toaching certificate immediately. There is no place for a leacher with a liberal political agenda in the dasaroom. Ms. Boismier's providing access to benned and pomographic material to students is unacceptable and we must ensure she doesn't go to another district and do the same thing This action must be dealt with swiftly and with respect to all our tids and parents.

Taachers are one of our state's greatest assats and it is unfortunate that one of them has caused such harm and shame for the entite profession. This type of behavior with not be tolorated in Oklahome and I speak for parente ecross the state who are demanding swift and immediate action.

Kids first,

Ryan Walters

Oldahoma Secretary of Education

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Warner West

For those who haven't been following the Summer Boismier story here in Norman, OK, she was an English teacher at Norman High that was forced to resign for sharks. See more



...

Mark B. Cohen September 1

An example of the madness of book parning.



Jim Boyle @JimGBoyle

At George Dawson Middle School an autobiography co-authored by George Dawson at 103 has been banned. Mr. Dawson was the grandson of a slave. He learned to read at 98. His book is an inspiration to all readers except it can't be read at the school that bears his name.



Andi Cude > True Blue Party

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2 Commente 5 Stares





With allies among the leaders of both parties, I spearheaded Pennsylvania's ploneering 2015 law against the Boycott, Divestment and Sanction's movement seeking deprive israel of foreign trade on a state by state basis. A federal appeals court has recently ruled in favor of the constitutionality of a similar law in Arkanses.

JEWISHADYOCACYCENTER ORG

A Federal Appeals Court Just Struck a Huge Blow to the BDS Movement | Opinion – National Jewish Advocacy Center

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A> Shate



Ed Doogan So take away from the Palestinians the only nonvio ent way they have to pressure

Israel and when they resort to violence give Israel an excuse to kill more Palestinian men, women and children. This is a terrible law and as a judge you should be ashamed of yourse's.

Like 1 Sur

Mark B. Cohen

Inquirer: Unemployment falls to 3.5%, tying for the lowest since 1969. More people are employed in US than ever before, showing a very strong economy and strengthening Social Security System. It's time for critics to re-evaluate this Administration.

0 30

18

9 Comments 8 Shares

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Nancy Kiley Erickson-Flake

He quietly gets things done for the American people.

Jim Jenkins

Mark B. Cohen Lnever doubted this administration President Joseph R. Biden News, is a class act & has a great administration my favorite is Labor Secretary Marty Walsh I Mark the World is going through many terrible crises the War/, Pandemic/Environ... See more

Joe was a senior statesman Prior to becoming president he knows exactly what to oo and who to tab into in order to make progress people should not underestimate

04

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Harold Rosenthal

23

nim everi Like tän Edget

Like 14th Easter Sheila A. Olive

Biden's low polling doesn't relate to his ability to win elections, if I have a wrong in my life, if I just paid too much for gas and I'm polled, it's his fault. The poll that is significant to winning an election is one that touts Biden against another candidate. Like that



Mark B. Cohen August 3 - G

Senator Amy Klobuchar predicts Sen. Kirsten Sinema will be on board with Inflation Reduction Act next week, & it will pass Senate, lowering annual deficit, fighting climate change, & reducing prescription costs. A victory for fiscal responsibility.

See how the average temperature in your area is changing Explore Climate Science Info

Fred Gusoff

Mark for the record, Kyrsten is the correct spelling of her first name.

×

4 Comments

00 11

Gerry Kosinski

Like 15.

Like 124.

Like 14

67

1 Like D Share Generally, I favor Tums for inflation reduction. Effective, **20** S Mark B. Cohen Gerry Kosinski A real heavyweight solution. 06 2

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13

15

Eric Bruun A bit of an exaggeration. The deficit is not so important in the first place, but wait to see what happens to this deficit in a few years when there are chains of storms and oisasters. Like the latest flood in Kentucky, where the Senator Rand Paul is o... See more Like 1202



A-XXIII

Mark B. Cohen

By a 59% to 41% vote, Kansas voters rejected a constitutional amendment that would have allowed the legislature to ban abortion. High turnout took place on 100 degree day, and sent a message that even conservative states are not on board with US Supreme Court reversal of Roe v Wade.

Stephen Drachler August 3 &

When Kansas speaks, the nation will be Estening. Kansas voters repudiated the rao cal U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday as they rejected a Constitutional amendment... See more



AFNEWS.COM

Kansas voters resoundingly protect their access to abortion TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Kansas voters on Tuesday sent a resounding message about their de

007

a' Like

5-6-12 1

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60 Share

A-XXIV



A plea for credit unions, which often offer lower fees, lower cost loans, higher interest rates and better customer service than commercial banks do.

Women should remove their money from banks. Seriously. Every penny. Use credit unions. Let's stop them from using our money to pay for lobbyists that take our rights away.

Addicting Info

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a) Dee

€ Share
Mark B. Cohen August 2 - 6 Truthi

Nina Turner There's nothing moderate about letting our planet burn, allowing our food air & water to be poisoned, or letting people go without food and

These are not moderate positions.

Corinna Bloom updated her cover photo (al) 19

shelter.



Like

A Share





Despite the support of Baer, Gov. Tom Wolf, and many others, the legislature still has not raised the minimum wage above the current \$7.25 level. When Paliralsed the minimum wage to \$7.15 (10 cents less than the federal level which ultimately followed), under my leadership in 2006. I immediately advocated that it should soon go up to \$6.00. Even after 16 years, and a \$15.00 an hour minimum wage in NJ, NY, California and other states, the minimum wage in Paland the USA has remained stagnant.



Legislative critic John Baer endorses higher Pa minimum wage. He says it would be a big step for legislative credibility and help a million people.

02

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🕫 Share

A-XXVII



A-XXVIII

ā Mark B. Cohen ħ 的花日 Joe Manchin seems to be retreating a bit on opposition to legislation dealing with climate change and investing in human infrastructures for social services. We'll soon see if his possible change of heart leads anywhere. photos. See how the average temperature in your area is changing. $[2^{2}]$ Explore Climate Science Info 7 Conmonte 0 9 n') Like A Share Carol Trotman friends We need him. Spliet's be optimistic and nice! Otherwise we cut off our noses to spite our faces tike 194 586 64 **Dashiell Sears** We figured out where he bocks his yacht Like 154 Florence Buckley Just con't touch his coal or natural gas pipelines. Uka IEv. Eric Bruun A tax break for buying an 80,000 pickup truck that is almost as large as a WW2 Sherman tank minus the turret. Meanwhile transit expansion is largely stalled since ij. virtue signalers are requiring transit agencies to spend money on conversion from dlesei ... See more Like 18% Vincent R Meyers Her knows he has to ask for federal aide for floods next week after the first big storm he suddenly changed his mind. Same with McConnet, The flooding in their respective States is going to require a federal response and they know it. Like 1Eg Bruce S. Ticker t don't like Manchin or Sinema, but as Dems they allow Schumer to set the agenda,

A-XXIX

Mark B. Cohen

Prophetic words from the Rev. Billy Graham 41 years ago.

"I don't want to see religious bigotry in any form. It would disturb me if there was a wedding between the religious fundamentalists and the political right. The hard right has no interest in religion except to manipulate it." – Rev. Billy Graham, Parade, 1981

Chester Hitchcock

• 🔊 👻 61

🖒 Like

→ 'j嘗 Carot Trotman replied · 1 Reply

View 10 previous comments

Like Sw

Dave Posmontier It's a shame that his son Franklin doesn't follow his advice... 18 Comments 5 Shares

A Share

10 2



NYT: Former Philadelphians Bruce Marks and Mike Roman were key players in alternate elector scheme. At least the poor records of Philly sports teams did not disqualify them. Marks is stepping up to defend his role, citing Hawaii in 1960.

6 8

n' Like

21 Comments

A Share

View 4 previous comments



Bruce Marks

Judge, i think you have the headline wrong. Perhaps, "NYT uses attorney-client communications apparently improperly leaked by the January 6 Committee to baselessly attack President Trump's Philadelphia based legal team" 1. does it concern you that attorney-client communications are being leaked by the Committee? Do you think this undercuts the Rule of Law in America, which includes the right to engage counsel? 2. Do you see much difference between Congress improperly leaking attorney-client communications and the US Supreme Court employee improperly leaking the draft decision on Roe? Doesn't this conduct undermine confidence in our political and legal systems?

Like 13th Edited

Hide 16 Replies

confidence in our political and legal systems?

Like 13% Edited

∧ Hide 16 Replies

Mark B. Cohen Bruce Marks | think you raise good points about the leaking of attorney-client communications. I need to know more about the House standards for investigating committees before I can fully answer your questions.

Like 13w

Mark B. Cohen

Bruce Marks Thank you for your response. Did the January 6 Committee violate any existing House rule, or any provision of the resolution establishing the Committee?

Like 15-s

Marc Stier

Bruce Marks "All agree that attorney-client privilege applies to confidential communications between an attorney and a client, or his representatives, made for the purpose of obtaining or rendering legal advice, and not in the furtherance of a crime or fraud."

The NYT claims you were part of the efforts to mount a coup against the government of the United States. If true, no attorney-client privilege protects you.

As for undermining confidence in our political and legal system--you took part in a scheme created by the man who has done more to do that with his false claims about election fraud than anyone in our entire history.

If I were you I'd start making amends before you follow Giuliani and have to defend you license to practice law.

() -

63

Like 13w Edited

Mark B. Cohen

Marc Stier Thank you for participating in this discussion, about which you are better informed than I.

Like 13m

Marc Stier

Mark B. Cohen I remembered that doctrine from some legal case I read about as an undergraduate. I no longer remember the case.

176a - 15-s

Bruce Marks Mark **B**. Cohen I do not know the answer, and, of course, the Democrat majority can make their own rules, but presumably any subpoeaned materials were to be used for the investigation, not to be gratuitously leaked to the NYT. It seems that it would be an abuse of power to use the subpoenas for political, rather than investigative, purposes. Of course, there is a bigger institutional picture here. If the Democrats do this, then the Republicans are likely to do the same when they take control after the midterms. It is not good for the institution, the country, or the judicial system.

Like 🛛 🖏 🖓

Bruce Marks

Marc Stler The NYT times does not claim that I was part of a coup. Where do you see that? Why would you think that I was part of a coup? If you read the article, you will see that the quote from an email attributed to me was critical of the Trump legal strategy. The only matter in which I entered an appearance for Trump was in the US Supreme Court. Have you read that filing? Does that evidence that I as part of a coup? I do agree that the NYT might have created confusion by writing about other attorneys and me in the same article, which could cause someone like you to draw false inferences. Do you see that as a problem?

Like 13a



Bruce Marks

Ed Doogan the attorney client privilege does not apply to legal advice designed to further a fraud or crime. But nothing in the article, or the email attributed to me, suggests that I was part of a fraud or a crime. I did disagree with the characterization of a "fake elector" scheme. In 1960, the Democrats sent an alternative slate of electors to DC while contesting the Kennedy-Nixon race. This precedent was followed by the Trump campaign in 2020 (with the caveat that I was not personally involved in the elector documents from Pennsylvania or any other state). The problem is that the Democrats and left wing media conflate different issues as part of their alleged "Big Lie". There are significant legal differences between the alternative elector program (which is what the Democrats did in 1960), falsely claiming fraud (as opposed to raising legitimate Constitutional and legal issues as I did in the US Supreme Court petition), and the advice given to Trump that the VP had the Constitutional authority to reject electors (in which I had no involvement and disagree legally, although I don't think Professor Eastman giving incorrect advice which he thought was correct is a crime).

Like 13w



Ed Doogan

Legitimate constitutional and legal questions that were thrown out of court 64 times? And your attempt to make what happened in 1960 analogous to what happened in 2020 is ridiculous on its face. The only thing analogous is that republicans lost an election and blamed voter fraud instead of a repudiation of their candidate. WiThe 1960 presidential election in Hawaii was in the middle of their mandated recount and two slates of electors were ready depending on who won. It was Nixon himself (never known to be above dirty tricks) who said that the democratic electors from Hawaii should be seated.

As I said earlier, republicans had 64 opportunities to present evidence that there was voter fraud on a scale big enough to affect the outcome of the election and just like in Chicago 1960 they provided none. There were also recounts in several contested swing states including PA where we both love. The extremely far right Supreme Court even found that your case had no merit. At least Nixon was man enough to admit defeat instead of almost destroying our government. And Professor Eastman KNEW that the theory he was proposing was illegal. Nice try genius.

https://www.newsweek.com/fact-check-did-vice-president...

NEWSWEEK.COM

Fact Check: Did Vice President Richard Nixon reject Hawaii's election results in 1960? ĩ

Like ISW Edited

Marc Stler

Bruce Marks The NYT says you took part in the scheme to propose fake electors. That was immoral and dishonest. Illegal, too? Well there are some pretty smart lawyers who are claiming that the entire Trump effort to encourage Pence to block certification of PA's electors was fraudulent. And if the fake electors were chosen to encourage that fraud, then yes you were part of it.

I think you are all a bunch of traitors to our country.

If you were capable of shame you would know that too. At any rate, if we can save this country from your fascist party, you will go down in history as successors to the confederates. And you may remember what Marx said about history repeating itself: the first time as tragedy, the second time as farce.

Like 18w

Bruce Marks

Marc Stler please quote where I am accused of this. I dont see it.

Like 15m

Bruce Marks Marc Stier please quote where Lam accused of this, I dont see it.

Bruce Marks

LINE

: 34

Ed Doogan Ed, if and when your allegations have factual support, I'll respond. There was no recount in Pennsylvania. Where do you live? The Supreme court made no merits determination on the petition I filed. It became moot after January 20. Why do you claim this? There was a pending challenge in Pennsylvania in the US supreme court, no different than the Hawaii case.

Like Str





5 Ed Doogan

Guess again dumbass. In the Hawaii case the two slates of electors were sent because the electoral college was counted early in December and it was Hawaii's first presidential election and they were still in the middle of recount even though Hawaii's electors had no affect on the outcome, 64 court cases weren't enough if they would have just listened to one more time.

"Voters, not lawyers, choose the President. Ballots, not briefs, decide elections," the judge wrote. Bibas was one of three judges on the Circuit Court of Appeals panel that consisted entirely of GOP appointees.

The judge's opinion was announced Friday afternoon and sided with a district court ruling that also rejected it."

If republican nominated judges rejected other arguments, 64 court cases were rejected in total and your brief was rendered moot because it was too late then only an absolute moron would think they still had a leg to stand on.

Like 15%

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Mark B. Cohen

(II)

Marc Stier None of us here are arguing about a decision-making body. It is their province to investigate and report they find. Whatever they find is if major public import, but it should be done within the standards of the House of Representatives, about which I am not expert. The attorney-client privilege varies from state to state, and is aimed at court proceedings. The January 6 Committee is not a court. And as a judge, I am limited in the degree to which I can comment on political actors, attorneys or judges in court proceedings.

Like 13%

Ed Doogan

Bruce Marks I'm no legal expert but doesn't criminal behavior by the attorney involved nullify attorney client privilege?

Like 13a

Bruce Marks

Mark B. Cohen I do not know the answer, and, of course, the Democrat majority can make their own rules, but presumably any subpoeaned materials were to be used for the investigation, not to be gratuitously leaked to the NYT. It seems that it would be an abuse of power to use the subpoenas for political, rather than investigative, purposes. Of course, there is a bigger institutional picture here. If the Democrats do this, then the Republicans are likely to do the same when they take control after the midterms. It is not good for the institution, the country, or the judicial system.

Like 13-4

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Like Sa

Mark B. Cohen

Words of wise advice from Canadal



In Canada, our schools have more than one door too. We have folks struggling with mental illness. We watch the same movies, listen to the same music and play the same violent video games as Americans. And since Columbine, the US had 200 school shootings. We had 3.

It's the guns.

David Reid June 2 😒 Bang:

15

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2 Shares

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Mark B. Cohen Hovember Eat 1908 AVE - St

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Dio you know that both Frankenstein and Dracula were played by union members? Neither dio 1.

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A-XXXIII



Mark B. Cohen September 14 at 330 PM - © Record profits are undermining tough corporate bargaining stances.

BNSF is the largest rail company in the US. Last year they had a net income of \$8.8B. They have 35k workers. If they kept half of their profit and split the rest with all employees everyone could receive a \$125k RAISE.

& Comments 32 Shares

Instead BNSF is cutting sick days. This is why they strike.

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Labor 411

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September Har 940 AM

tiv. Mark B. Cohen Sectember 12 at 2.05 PM 3

Bad news for Texas kids and school boards. Perhaps good news for Texas educators' future pay raises and working conditions.

Poll: 77% of Texas teachers want to quit

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15 Comments 6 Shares

Johnny Mitchell September 0 at 5 26 Ald 🛛 😋

Houston Chronicle, 9/9/22

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Mark B. Cohen

Bruce Springsteen is also a fan of unions, as are now about 60% of our country.

Unions have been the only powerful and effective voice working people have ever had in the history of this country. -Bruce Springsteen



chatos

Jeff Rechenbach

Saptember Bri 📢

See all

This Boss understands the value of unions. On this day set aside for the recognition of workers, let's remember it is the Labor Movement that built the middle class in our nation.

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⇔ Share

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Mark B. Cohen September 11 🤂

A strong endorsement of the labor movement of his time from famed defense attorney Clarence Darrow.

WITH ALL THEIR FAULTS, **TRADE-UNIONS HAVE DONE MORE FOR** HUMANITY THAN ANY **ER ORGANIZATION OF** I THAT EVER EXISTED. MF THEY HAVE DONE **MORE FOR DECENCY,** FOR HONESTY, FOR EDUCATION, FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE RACE, FOR THE DEVELOPING OF CHARACTER IN MAN, THAN ANY OTHER **ASSOCIATION OF MEN.**

hotos

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see all

CLARENCE DARROW

Ron Klink September 19 😋

I be leve this with all my neart and soul-

17

15 Like



1 Share

A-XXXVIII



Mark B. Cohen September 8 📢

Farm workers are vital to our food supply. Thanks to Many Rose Cunningham for sharing,

Honoring the immigrants on Labor Day who put food on our tables:



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Mark B. Cohen 517

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September 1 - 🚱 Tomorrow is Labor Day. As you enjoy it, remember why workers successfully fought to have it established during the Presidency of Grover Cieve and. **votos** Happy Labor Da 7 John Meyerson ends Jeptenper J 👌 Happy Labor Day! We must never forget the reason we celebrate the sacrifices that workers have made in their ae all fight for social and economic justicel We still have a way to go: 0 31 3 Comments 2 Shares D Like A Share View 2 previous comments 6b

A-XLIII







See all

Mark B. Cohen 4ugust 29 - 69

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35

Another take from a supporter of student debt cancellations

If you're mad about student loan forgiveness, I feel bad for you son.

I got 99 problems but being weirdly bitter that life is getting slightly easier for other people ain't one.

Marti Murphy August 28 📢

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	S	tike 119 Bobby W Williams III		
18	1 8 3	Hear, near! Like 188		
)le	•	Beca Fuicher	c	
	•	Like 10- Nadine Freemer Bonner I don't get it. No one protested when we b student any day. As for "they should have b think Citi didn't know what they were doing building a future	rowr what they were getting into "You	

A-XLVII



My former colleague in Harrisburg waces into theology to support dept forgiveness for education toans.

....

If you're a Christian and you're big mad about the possibility of student loan debt being cancelled, let me remind you that the entirety of your faith is built upon a debt you couldn't pay that someone stepped in and paid for you.

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		Bobby W Williams III Yep Like Bigs C 2	
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eë all	ţ.	Len Buchta Ph D And this is the plain and simple fact lost i Christianis. Hypocrites II, Like – Files	among so many so called born again
		Shakela Mills-Strawberry Len Buchta Ph D and yet F8 had yo offensive". I guess they oon t like th Like The	te fact that you are correct @
	6	Shakela Mills-Strawberry	

Mark B. Cohen No. Augurt 28 19 One more way to say that reducing student load debt makes a lot of sense.

Jesus's miracle of the loaves and fishes was a slap in the face to all the people who brought their own lunch.



Bob Ketauver August 23 - 😒

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3 Comments / Share

A Share

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	4	view 8 more replies		
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	las	Dee Ro o paid off college debt when I was an adukt. Luckiy I has some he p fi abursement but the debt took years to pay off. I don't begrudge the p		
		get relief.		
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۲	1 ha	ry Kosinski we no problem whatsoever with student loan forgiveness, i went to so igan when tuition funding was fair & affordable. About \$1,600/yr at 2		
-		1 \$2,200/yr at Temple Law, well under \$10,000/yr in today's money. H		
法	hav	e a See more	A.	1 F F F F F F F
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Θ		id J. Miller id pretty much the same thing today. Happy to see others share my s	dew.	
	Like	s 114z	Ø	

A-L

Mark B. Cohen August 25 - 🕀

lagree with this:

"I worked hard to pay off my student loans, others should have to too!"

"I swam across that river, how dare they build a bridge!"

3 Contraents 4 Shares

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Warren Fretwell August 25 - 🗑

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		CNBC COM This is how student loa	an debt became a \$1,7	i trillion crisis
C	Steven Kaplan Why can t they	just remit the interest? W	/ouidnit that help and no c	ap on amount.
	Like 11. Est	A3	a ga kara shar	÷ 50 🥹

Frank E. Kelley Had the republicans not held up this legislative action for years, many now complaining would have also received this benefit. Like Man



Former US Secretary of Labor Robert Reich is absolutely right on this.



OCCUPY DEMOCRAIS

Steve Sherman

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1 Comment 1 Share



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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN	RE:	:	DOCKET	NO.	1	Ъ	2023	
	JUDGE MARK B. COHEN	:						
	COURT OF COMMON PLEAS	:						
	1 ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT	:						
	PHILADELPHIA COUNTY	:						

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify I am this date serving a copy of the foregoing Omnibus Motion in the captioned matter upon the following persons in the manner indicated below.

Service by electronic mail addressed as follows:

- 1. Joseph U. Metz, Esquire Chief Counsel Court of Judicial Discipline Pennsylvania Judicial Center 601 Commonwealth Avenue Suite 550 P.O. Box 62595 Harrisburg, PA 17106-2595 Email: Joseph.Metz@pacourts.us
- 2. Stephanie Stump Court Administrator Court of Judicial Discipline Pennsylvania Judicial Center 601 Commonwealth Avenue Suite 550 P.O. Box 62595 Harrisburg, PA 17106-2595 Email: <u>Stephanie.Stump@pacourts.us</u>

- 3. James P. Kleman, Jr., Esquire Deputy Counsel Judicial Conduct Board 601 Commonwealth Avenue Suite 3500 P.O. Box 62525 Harrisburg, PA 17106-2525 Email: James.KlemanJr@jcbpa.org
- 4. The Honorable Mark B. Cohen 1501 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19102 Email: Mmacohen1@verizon.net

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney I.D. No. 18491

(610) 696-4243

3/9/23

Date

Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Hon. Mark B. Cohen 103 South High Street P.O. Box 3231 West Chester, PA 19381-3231