

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

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JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE
OF PENNSYLVANIA

2016 NOV 18 P 2:32

IN RE: :
: :
ANGELES ROCA : :
JUDGE OF THE COURT OF : NO. 14 JD 2015
COMMON PLEAS : :
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT : :
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY :

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF WITNESSES OF THE RESPONDENT,
ANGELES ROCA

The Respondent, Angeles Roca, by her counsel, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, at the sanction hearing, supplements her initial Statement of Witnesses and Supplemental Statement of Witnesses as follows.

Witnesses Who Will Testify By Letter

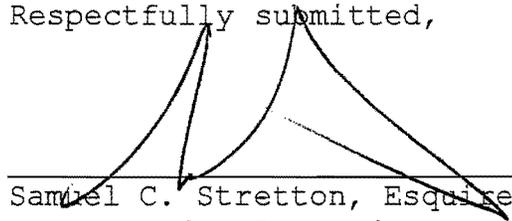
1. Attorney Sandra W. Morris. Attached and marked as Exhibit "A" is the November 4, 2016 letter of Ms. Morris.
2. Attorney Richard B. Bost. Attached and marked as Exhibit "B" is the November 15, 2016 letter of Mr. Bost.
3. Attorney James A. Rocco, III. Attached and marked as Exhibit "C" is the November 14, 2016 letter of Mr. Rocco.
4. Attorney Crystal B. Powell. Attached and marked as Exhibit "D" is the November 14, 2016 letter of Ms. Powell.
5. Gardenia Bradley, the Respondent's former Court Officer. Attached and marked as Exhibit "E" is the November 7, 2016 letter of Ms. Bradley.

6. Attorney Ronald F. Abel. Attached and marked as Exhibit "F" is the November 8, 2016 letter of Mr. Abel.

7. Attorney Andres Jalon. Attached and marked as Exhibit "G" is the October 31, 2016 letter of Mr. Jalon.

8. Attorney Jermaine Harris. Attached and marked as Exhibit "H" is the November 7, 2016 letter of Mr. Harris.

Respectfully submitted,



Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire
Attorney for Respondent,
Angeles Roca
301 South High Street
P.O. Box 3231
West Chester, PA 19381
(610) 696-4243
Attorney I.D. #18491

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE: : NO. 14 JD 15
ANGELES ROCA :
JUDGE OF THE COURT OF :
COMMON PLEAS :
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT :
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY :

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify I am this date serving a copy of the Respondent's Second Supplemental Statement of Witnesses in the captioned matter upon the following persons in the manner indicated below.

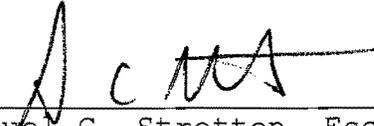
Service by First Class Mail addressed as follows:

1. Elizabeth A. Flaherty, Esquire
Deputy Counsel
Judicial Conduct Board
Pennsylvania Judicial Center
601 Commonwealth Ave., Suite 3500
P.O. Box 62525
Harrisburg, PA 17106
2. Honorable Angeles Roca
515 W. Girard Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19123

Respectfully submitted,

11-17-16

Date



Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire
Attorney for Respondent,
Angeles Roca
301 S. High St., P.O. Box 3231
West Chester, PA 19381-3231
(610) 696-4243
Attorney I.D. No. 18491

LAW OFFICE
OF
SANDRA W. MORRIS, LLC

Trevoze Corporate Center
4600 E. Street Road
Trevoze, Pennsylvania 19053
215-322-8060
215-322-8090 (Fax)
www.sandramorrislaw.com

Sandra W. Morris, Esq.
Sandra@sandramorrislaw.com

Loretta Golding, Paralegal
LNesti@sandramorrislaw.com

November 4, 2016

RE: The Honorable Angeles Roca

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

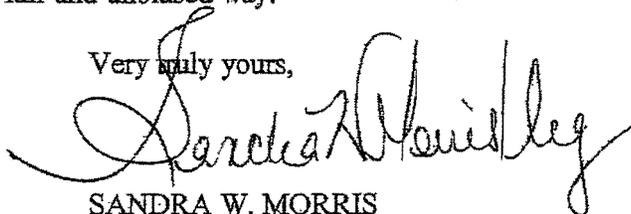
I am an attorney who practices family law in Philadelphia County, as well as the surrounding counties.

I have known Judge Roca for many years on a professional level. I have appeared before her on numerous custody and divorce cases. Judge Roca was always well-prepared. She listened to the issues presented before her. She applied the law and rendered fair and impartial decisions. She always showed respect to the lawyers and the parties. She exhibited an even temperament and always had control of her courtroom.

Judge Roca has a reputation among the bar for fairness and equity.

Philadelphia County needs strong judges, such as Judge Roca, who can understand the issues, know the law and apply it in a fair and unbiased way.

Very truly yours,



SANDRA W. MORRIS

SWM/leg

Exhibit "A"

LAW OFFICES OF RICHARD B BOST
1515 MARKET STREET | SUITE 1801 | PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

Via Electronic Mail

November 15, 2016

Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board
601 Commonwealth Avenue, Ste. 3500
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0901

In Re: Judge Angeles Roca, No 14 JD 2015

Dear Members of the Board,

I write to voice my support for Judge Roca as you consider how to address the issues before you and with the hope that you will show her the same compassion and mercy that I have personally witnessed her dispense in her courtroom over many years.

By way of background I am the incoming Chair of the Family Law Section for the Philadelphia Bar Association and have known Judge Roca for approximately 15 years. At that time I was an associate in a firm that provided legal services to the member of Lodge 5 of the Fraternal Order of Police and Judge Roca's practice was largely comprised of members of the Philadelphia Hispanic community. Our paths crossed often, and we had a few cases where we were opponents. She was not only a worthy adversary, but a colleague who would take the time to discuss legal issues and was generous with her advice.

I lived in California from 2003 through 2008, and was happy to see Judge Roca on the bench in the Domestic Relations branch when I returned. Since that time she has been one of the really "good" judges in a part of the judiciary that too often has been composed of jurists who were either biding their time until they could be reassigned, or were put there because of various problems.

When other lawyers would ask me about what kind of judge Angeles Roca was, I would tell them she was a judge who "got it" because she not only knew the law, but understood people. I also trusted her because I knew she would do what was fair and just. To illustrate that point I would tell them about the time I had a Spanish speaking client when an interpreter wasn't available. It was a custody case and my client the father, wanted more time than just every other weekend that mother was proposing. With my permission Judge Roca conducted part of the hearing in Spanish. After hearing the testimony, she began to speak and both the mother and father were crying. Judge Roca explained that she was telling the mother that my client wasn't like the other men in her life; he wasn't like the uninvolved deadbeat father of her oldest child; that he was a man who obviously loved his children and one who would be there

Richard B

November 15, 2016

for them as they grew up. The parties in that case ended up agreeing to equally shared physical custody, a situation they still have.

I also know a little about Judge Roca's personal life, including the contribution she has made to her community, not only by helping some of the most disadvantaged, but by being an inspiration and a role model for Latina girls and women. But perhaps the one thing I know about her that I respect the most is her love and commitment to her family. I base this in part on the fact that most evenings she goes and prepares meals for her elderly mother, an act that reminded me of my own father who almost every night went to my Grandfather's home to help his sister with Multiple Sclerosis get upstairs to bed. To me selfless acts like this epitomizes the values that make our families strong.

In conclusion, it was little wonder to me as I read in the newspapers about what happened that Judge Roca would have tried to help her son. I would ask that you consider this when you make your decision, as well as the many litigants in Philadelphia who have benefited from years on the bench.

Very truly yours,

Richard Bost

Richard B. Bost

cc: Samuel Stretton, Esq., via email.

ROCCO

LAW

November 14, 2016

Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
601 Commonwealth Ave
Suite 3500
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0901

In Re: Judge Angeles Roca
No. 14 JD 2015

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to you to share my impressions and interactions with Judge Angeles Roca in my active family law practice. By way of brief background, I have been a licensed and practicing attorney for over twenty (20) years with a focus on family law matters in Philadelphia County. I am the current President of the Nicholas J. Cipriani Family Law Inn of Court of Philadelphia and a past Chair of the Family Law Section of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

I first met Judge Roca over fifteen years ago during our first custody matter and it became the first of many family law cases we had together. From that first case as opposing counsel until the last cases we had together until she took the bench, I always found her to be extremely professional and ethical. I did not refer to her as my adversary, but rather as my colleague, because Judge Roca and I always worked together to resolve our clients' differences to the best that we could rather than simply go to Court and litigate issues that should have been resolved prior to Court.

If, at any point in time during any of our cases, she made a verbal representation, I never hesitated to accept that representation even though it was not in writing since her word was as good as any written agreement. Not only did I have this type of relationship with Judge Roca before she became a judge, I personally know that she had the same type of relationship with many of my fellow family law practitioners, and she was equally respected by all of the Philadelphia Family Court judges, masters and hearing officers. When she was in Court, she displayed the utmost courtesy to the Court, Court staff, opposing counsel and any witnesses involved.

In addition to being an excellent advocate for her clients, she also served a population in the Philadelphia area that was in dire need of representation in family law matters where many of her clients were low income and did not speak English very well.

JAMES A. ROCCO III | BEBORAH A. ROCCO

1515 MARKET ST, SUITE 1801, PHILADELPHIA PA 19102 | LICENSED IN PA & NJ

p 215-977-7143 | f 215-977-7148 | e info@roccolaw.com | w roccolaw.com

Exhibit C

ROCCO

LAW

Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board

November 14, 2016

Page Two

Once Judge Roca was elected to the bench and assigned to the Domestic Relations Branch for the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, my colleagues and I were delighted to have a new Judge with her knowledge, respect and work ethic on the bench. Shortly after her assignment, Judge Roca began hearing regular and expedited custody matters. The regular custody cases ranged from two hour trials to multi-day protracted cases and the expedited custody cases usually comprised of approximately fifteen (15) cases per session. Judge Roca promptly took the bench each and every day and expected counsel to be fully prepared and ready to proceed at the same time.

During her regular custody cases, she permitted counsel to try his or her case, and had respect for all litigants whether or not they were represented by counsel. During the expedited custody cases, she quickly grasped the issue at hand, made the appropriate inquiries if necessary and issued a prompt and well-reasoned decision despite the limited amount of time she had per case on those days.

Despite our professional and friendly relationship we developed over the years from the many cases we had together, she never allowed that relationship to interfere with rendering an appropriate custody order that was always in the best interest of the child(ren).

While I have no excuse nor can I justify any of Judge Roca's actions that have brought her before Your Honorable Board, I can only assume that her innate reaction to assist her son may have clouded her judgment. I can also wholeheartedly share with you that during her absence from the bench, she has truly been missed as a well respected, hardworking and thoughtful judge.

In sum, my encounters with Judge Roca, both before and after she was elected to the bench, have been of the most professional and exemplary in nature. Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of this case.

Respectfully yours,

By: _____

James A. Rocco, III

cc Samuel C. Strefton, Esquire

JAMES A. ROCCO III | DEBORAH A. ROCCO

1515 MARKET ST, SUITE 1801, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102 | LICENSED IN PA & NJ

p: 215-977-7141 | f: 215-977-7148 | e: info@roccolaw.com | w: roccolaw.com



Crystal B. Powell, Esq.

340 N. Egneshawne Avenue ♦ Egneshawne, Pa 17050 ♦ Office: 610-394-3000 ♦ Fax: 610-394-1213

November 14, 2016

Court Of Judicial Discipline of the
Commonwealth of Pa
PA Judicial Center
601 Commonwealth Avenue
5500
P.O.Box 62595
Harrisburg, Pa 17106-2595

Re: Judge Angeles Roca
Philadelphia Court Of Common Pleas

To The Judges of Said Court:

I correspond on behalf of Judge Angeles Roca who will appear before The Court for a hearing on sanctions on November 21, 2016.

I have known Judge Roca for at least a decade. We first met as colleagues practicing in Philadelphia Family Court.

As colleagues, we connected on our similar ideology concerning the rights and obligations of the parties litigating in Family Court. We believed in educating our clients concerning those rights and obligations and most importantly, always emphasized to them that they remove their emotions from the matter and focus on what was best for the children.

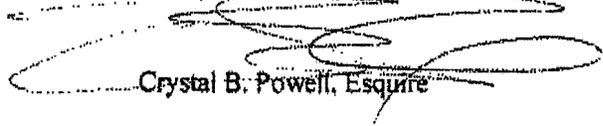
When she became a Jurist in 2008, I was relieved to see that she remained true to herself and continued to have a balance of understanding of the issues and was aware of the innuendo of the matters before her as evident from her steady rulings.

While I did not always prevail when before her, I never felt that she was unclear on the issues or unfair. The Philadelphia Family Court was in dier need of someone with her background and legal experience and it was simply great to have her as a part of the Family Bench Bar.

Exhibit "D"

It is my intense hope that she is allowed to return to the bench and be given another opportunity to administer justice for the mothers, fathers and guardians of Philadelphia.

Respectfully,



Crystal B. Powell, Esquire

November 7, 2016

Mr. Samuel Stretton, Esq.

My name is Gardenia Bradley, I have known Judge Roca for almost seven years I worked in her courtroom as her Court Officer, so I truly believe I am in a position to speak to her moral character.

Judge Roca is a hard working, fair and kind person whom possesses a strong sense of pride and a great deal of integrity. Judge Roca listens carefully and patiently as the people before her present their life story. Judge Roca always strived to make sure that her decisions were in the best interest of the plaintiff, the defendant and any children involved.

I can't imagine how difficult it must be to make decisions which affect the lives of people that you do not know, but Judge Roca has made these difficult decisions on a daily basis, she is truly a Judge of exceptional moral character.

I hope this letter is taken into consideration.

Thank you

Gardenia Bradley

Gardenia Bradley

Exhibit E

Law Offices of
THE ABEL LAW GROUP, P.C.

Member PA and NJ Bars

1706 Race Street, Suite 402
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-988-1224 FAX 215-988-1228
abellawgroup@verizon.net

November 8, 2016

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania
c/o Samuel Stretton, Esquire
301 High Street, P.O. Box 3231
West Chester, PA 19381

RE: Judge Angeles Roca

To the Honorable Justices:

I'm writing this letter for your consideration in regards to Judge Angeles Roca. I have known Judge Roca for many years. When Judge Roca was in private practice, we had many cases against each other in Philadelphia Family Court where she represented the Husband/Father or Wife/Mother and I represented the other party. I always found Ms. Roca to be caring, compassionate and most importantly trustworthy and law abiding. She always showed her care and concern for her clients' and their matters and she always put their interests first. She could never do enough for people of all walks of life and backgrounds, regardless of their economic status and ability to pay.

After Judge Roca took the bench she continued to exhibit her concern and compassion for the citizens that appeared before her. Judge Roca clearly understands the dynamics of domestic relationships and that those relationships will continue after a case is litigated. Her knowledge of the law and procedure, both as a practitioner and now as a Judge coupled with her common sense and life experiences, helped many litigants reach agreements in her courtroom. Agreements that allowed the parties to move forward with minimal animosity. She is always focused on helping families repair relationships whenever possible with a true compassion and concern for the children in these relationships who often become the casualties of a broken family.

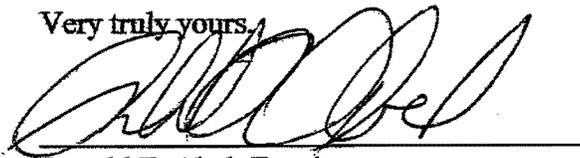
As Your Honors consider a disposition for Judge Roca's matter, I would ask for leniency for Judge Roca. I am a parent as I'm sure many of you are and we all want to do what's best for our children and help them in anyway we can. Unfortunately, in this case, I believe that Judge Roca's judgment became clouded by the love and concern she has for her children which caused her to act outside of the good character that she has consistently exhibited for the twenty plus years that I have known her both in and out of Court. This was an isolated incident that goes against everything Judge Roca stands for and has achieved in her life. Knowing Judge Roca and the person that she is, I truly believe that if this incident did not involve her Son, then it wouldn't have happened.

Exhibit "F"

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania
November 8, 2016
Page -2-

Should you have any questions or require additional information from me, do not hesitate to call. Thank you for your consideration of my submission in this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. F. Abel', written over a horizontal line.

Ronald F. Abel, Esquire

RFA/hky



Andres Jalon, Esquire
ajalon@jalonesq.com

October 31, 2016

Samuel Stretton, Esquire
301 S. High Street
PO Box 3231
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19381
VIA FASCIMILE AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

RE: The Honorable Judge Angeles Roca
Letter in Support

Dear Attorney Stretton,

Kindly forward this letter to the Committee considering Judge Roca's matter(s).

I write today on behalf of Judge Angeles Roca. I have known Judge Roca since I began practicing law eighteen (18) years ago. Prior to her career as a Common Pleas Judge, I sought advice from Judge Roca numerous times when I began to practice. Judge Roca mentored me and taught me much about the practice of family law in Philadelphia. Judge Roca was always very kind to me and seemed to go out of her way, whenever she saw me in Court, to go over my cases and offer any additional guidance. Judge Roca's kindness toward me helped me to build a solid family law practice.

Personally, Angie has been there for me as well. In certain instances when I was having problems in my marriage she guided me back to my relationship. Angie's advice was to avoid a divorce and to work to mend my marriage. Though I filed for divorce (contrary to her advice at the time), my wife and I remained together and inevitably were able to rebuild our marriage—we have been married now for 22 years. I credit Angie's good advice (given to the hard headed man as I was ten years ago) as a factor in helping me gain a foothold on my life which led me to save my marriage. For that, I will always be grateful to her.

I've avoided delving into the issue that has brought Judge Roca before this Board. I only know that in my experience I've found her to be kind, caring, highly skilled in practice and knowledgeable about the law. I've been before Judge Roca and I can tell you she has never shown any favoritism toward me and in many instances I've had decisions which were adverse to my position. There were a few times that I disagreed with Judge Roca's rulings, but I never doubted that the decisions she made were not only squarely grounded in law but also determined after a careful, fair, ethical and legal examination of the circumstances presented to her. As far as I'm concerned, she has the attributes that we all want in a Judge.

Centre Square West, Suite 2727, 1500 Market Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

Phone: 215-844-8444 Cellular: 267-229-4304 Facsimile: 215-985-3610

Exhibit "G"

October 31, 2016
Judge Angeles Roca
Page Two,

I consider Judge Roca to be an excellent jurist and I stand behind her as a colleague and friend. I have never seen her treat anyone in a curt, negative or mean manner. To the contrary, she is always professional and cares about making sure that everyone is heard in her courtroom.

I ask this board to consider Judge Roca's service to the community, her commitment to the advancement of our practicing legal community, to her mentorship of lawyers like myself and on the strength of her rulings and care in decision making when sitting in judgement.

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter. Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact my office.

Very truly yours,



ANDRES JALON, ESQUIRE

AJ/rj
cc: File

LAW OFFICE OF JERMAINE HARRIS

100 South Broad Street, Suite 1523

Philadelphia, PA 19110

Telephone # (215)568-0493, FAX# (215)568-0912

November 7, 2016

Samuel Stretton, Esquire
301 S. High Street
PO Box 3231
West Chester, PA 190381

RE: Angeles Roca

Dear Mr. Stretton:

Please accept this as a character reference for the above referenced individual.

I have known Ms. Roca for approximately fifteen (15) years. Before she became a judge, I encountered her many times in family court and knew her to be a competent attorney with a reputation for providing able representation for her clients. After Ms. Roca became a judge, I appeared before her often over several years and my experience was that she was quite candid, fair, and thorough with her application of the law to the litigants before her. While sitting as a judge, I truly believe that she was one of the fairest of judges at Family Court.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

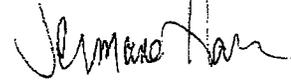

Jermaine Harris

Exhibit "H"