



State of North Carolina Judicial Standards Commission

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Dear New Judges of the General Court of Justice:

As Chair of the North Carolina Judicial Standards Commission, I congratulate you on your recent election or appointment to judicial office in the State of North Carolina. The Judicial Standards Commission is charged with the important task of investigating allegations of judicial misconduct or disability against judges and justices of the North Carolina Court of General Justice and commissioners and deputy commissioners of the North Carolina Industrial Commission. Each year, the Judicial Standards Commission considers over 200 complaints, and each one is carefully reviewed with an eye towards maintaining the highest ethical standards of our state's judicial officers and ensuring fairness to both the complainant and the judge. In addition to these duties, the Commission staff is available to you to answer questions on how the Code of Judicial Conduct applies in situations you are confronting in your new role as judges.

The Commission and its staff remain ever mindful of the importance of the faithful execution of the Commission's mission. The work of the Commission is critical to maintaining public trust and confidence in the judiciary. The existence and authority of an independent commission to investigate and recommend discipline in cases of judicial misconduct is also a central component of any civil society committed to the rule of law. The Commission and staff are fully aware of the tremendous responsibility that is entrusted to us. We are proud to discharge these duties and to continue to serve as a resource for education and outreach on the importance of judicial ethics. It remains an honor and a privilege to serve as the Chair of the Judicial Standards Commission, and on behalf of the Commission and its staff, I welcome you to the North Carolina judicial family.

Sincerely,


Wanda G. Bryant
Chair

