



JUDICIAL STANDARDS UPDATE: 2023

JUDGE CHRIS DILLON, CHAIR
BRITTANY PINKHAM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PATRICIA FLOOD, COMMISSION COUNSEL
NORTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

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RECURRING ISSUES

- **Delay (Canon 3A(5)):**
 - *We understand the **pressure** you are under.*
 - Orders
 - Excessive Continuances
 - Understanding the balance between
 - Working through backlogs/keeping cases moving &
 - Denying litigants' rights (counsel, fair hearing, etc.)



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RECURRING ISSUES

- **The Right to Counsel:**
 - May be legal error, BUT Canon 3A Adjudicative Duties interplay
 - Full & fair opportunity to be heard
 - Duty to be faithful to law & maintain professional competence in it
 - Pay attention: difference between waiving right to court appointed counsel vs. all counsel (FAO 2015-02)
 - Subjective intent does not trump statutory/Constitutional rights
 - Beware: difficult litigants, contempt
 - Know your powers under law & understand rights at play
 - Know when to take a break



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YOUR THOUGHTS: CANON 7

- Subcommittee formed in 2022 to address issues and potential recommended changes to Canon 7.
- Please fill out questionnaire.



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Please don't hesitate to contact us!

Brittany Pinkham, bpm@coa.nccourts.org
(919) 831-3633