### COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: : DOCKET NO. 1 JD 2024

JUDGE ANTHONY SAVEIKIS :
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT :
DISTRICT 05-3-17 :
ALLEGHENY COUNTY :

# ANSWER AND NEW MATTER OF FORMER JUDGE ANTHONY SAVEIKIS

Former Judge Anthony Saveikis, the Respondent, hereby answers the Complaint of the Judicial Conduct Board, by and through his counsel, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, Robert G. Del Greco, Jr., Esquire and David J. Shrager, Esquire, and contends that there was no intentional violation of any Rules and asks for a full hearing on these matters for the following reasons:

- 1) Admitted.
- 2) Admitted. Although Judge Saveikis retired as a District Judge as of January 26th, 2024.
- 3) Admitted that the Judicial Conduct Board made a determination of probable cause. Denied that there was probable cause.

# ALLEGATIONS INVOLVING W.B.

4) Admitted on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Respondent saw and spoke with W.B. The Respondent often would eat at Janoski's Country Restaurant (present day Lulu's) because he enjoyed the food there and knew the owner and staff very well. Before November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Respondent did not know W.B. The

Respondent has been a family friend of the owners for three generations.

- the restaurant through the kitchen area which is his normal way of entering. He does that since he knows the cooks and also because he has a keen interest in cooking. The Respondent has a background in the food and hospitality industry. Upon entering the kitchen (which has been his custom and practice for many years), the Respondent asked about purchasing some cinnamon rolls. He asked if he could purchase some and was told to speak to W.B. The Respondent introduced himself to W.B., shook his hand and asked some questions since that is the first time he had ever met W.B. It was just a normal friendly conversation which is consistent with the extraverted nature of the Respondent as well as Respondent's extraordinary efforts to know and engage members of his magisterial district.
- conversation with W.B., the Respondent asked W.B. where the cinnamon rolls were and W.B. informed the Respondent the cinnamon rolls were in the freezer. The Respondent then went with W.B. into the freezer for the purpose of picking out the cinnamon rolls he wanted to purchase. The freezer door has a spring mechanism that shuts by itself but does not lock. The freezer is in the center of the kitchen surrounded by workers

and adults. The restaurant manager was present. The Respondent was in the freezer for less than one minute and was there for the sole purpose of selecting cinnamon rolls to purchase. Denied that the Respondent touched the shoulder, arms or back of W.B. The only thing the Respondent may have done was give him a pat on the back as a thank you for taking him to purchase the cinnamon rolls. Denied that the Respondent caused W.B. to feel trapped and vulnerable. That is just not accurate.

- 7) Denied as stated. The Respondent did tell W.B. how to ice the pastries that he has ordered. In doing so, the Respondent does not recall taking W.B.'s hand but showed him the swirling motion about how the icing should be applied. The Respondent emphatically denies that there was any sexual suggestiveness. The Respondent paid for the cinnamon rolls and left.
- 8) Denied as stated. The Respondent has no idea when this matter was reported to the police department and how it was referred. But the Respondent was cleared of any wrongdoing.
- 9) Denied. The Respondent had no idea or knowledge about the matter being referred to the District Attorney's Office but it must be noted that the District Attorney's Office brought no charges and cleared the Respondent of any wrongdoing.
- 10) Admitted that the Respondent subsequently met with the President Judge of Allegheny County. The Respondent recalled the

meeting as being a cordial meeting. The Respondent only recalls the President Judge only telling him to be more careful around strangers. It should be noted, the Respondent raises the statute of limitations on W.B.'s false accusations since it is beyond the four-year statute of limitations set forth in Judicial Conduct Board Rules of Procedure, Rule 15.

## ALLEGATIONS INVOLVING D.M.

- 11) Denied as stated. To the Respondent's knowledge, D.M.'s age was 18. Admitted that D.M. was charged with purchase of alcoholic beverages which is a summary offense for anyone under 21 years of age.
- 12) Admitted. This was a normal common and routine resolution of a case for such a charge. The Respondent has often ordered persons in similar situations to attend four AA meetings, to deal with any issues of alcohol abuse, and to do 25 hours of community service. The Respondent has done that hundreds of times during his twenty plus years on the bench.
- 13) Denied as stated. D.M. was completing his community service hours at that event. The Respondent was in attendance there. The Respondent was very active in the community and would often appear at community events to be sure the workers connected with the supervisors. He also was known to check on those doing community service. It is denied that the Respondent would often come to speak with D.M.

- 14) Denied as stated. It is correct that the Respondent frequently visits Coen Markets as it is a convenient store that was located closest to his judicial office and he liked the coffee they made there. He would go there several times a day because he drank coffee frequently during that time period. It is admitted that D.M. was employed there. It is denied that the Respondent offered to take D.M. out socially. The store manager asked the Respondent to provide some guidance to D.M. The store manager noted the Respondent that D.M. lived in a trailer park and that D.M. was not doing a good job and she did not want him to lose his job. As a result, the Respondent spoke to D.M. to try and provide him some guidance and encouragement and to make sure he kept his job and stayed out of trouble.
- 15) Denied as stated. The Respondent does not have a clear recollection but believes that when he would go to Coen Market, if D.M. was not there, he, at times, would text D.M. to inquire about his whereabouts because of the conversation the Respondent had with the store manager. To the best of the Respondent's recollection, if he texted D.M., it was probably only a few times asking why D.M. was not at work or things of that nature.
- 16) The Respondent at all times was responsible for being the District Judge and D.M.'s case was pending conditioned on D.M. completing the agreement. The case was ultimately dismissed since D.M. complied with the terms and conditions of the

agreement. It must be kept in mind that the Respondent was an extremely active person the community. The Respondent was at many public events, restaurants, and very active in his magisterial district.

# ALLEGATIONS OF Z.H.

- 17) Admitted.
- 18) Admitted. The diversionary program is often suggested in those types of cases and that allows someone to get help and get the charges dismissed. The charge was serious since Z.H., at a birthday party, held a knife to a minor's neck. The police sent this to the District Judge because of the excellent results he was having with juvenile offenders.
- 19) Admitted that Z.H. was ordered to work shifts at the Findlay Fair. The term Clinton Fall Festival is not correct.

  Z.H. was also ordered to complete a teen accountability class. He had to bring proof of the completion of both conditions to the next hearing which was scheduled for September 27th, 2022. If the conditions were met, the citation would be dismissed. That was the normal common and routine procedure for many District Courts, particularly for first offenders.
  - 20) Admitted.
- 21) Denied as stated. The Findlay Fair began on that day at 10 am with a parade. The Respondent attended and participated in the parade and has done that for as long as he can remember.

As noted, he is very active in the community and in his magisterial district. Unlike elections in the Court of Common Pleas and Pennsylvania Appellate Courts regarding retention, the Respondent was cognizant of the political cycle and requirements to not only garner the nomination but also prevail in a general election. The Respondent attends the Finlay Fair regularly and extensively because of his involvement in the community and his desire to be available to the public. The Respondent has always been a very involved Judge. At the Fair, the Respondent spoke to Janet Craig, who advised him that Z.H. did not seem interested in working. She further advised the Respondent she was averse to having community services done by minors in the first place. The essence of the conversation was that Ms. Craig suggested that the Respondent speak to Z.H. The Respondent then did seek out Z.H. at the request of one of the supervisors.

22) Denied as stated. The Respondent then spoke to Z.H. The Respondent did introduce Z.H. to members of the Board and other individuals. He noted that Z.H. was going to complete his community service and thought it would be a good idea to know and be acquainted with the Board member. Denied that he was touching Z.H. on the arms or shoulders or anything of that nature. It is possible he may have patted him on the back or pulled at his sleeve as admittedly the Respondent is enthusiastic and hearty and regardless of the recipient, his

conversations are always up close and personal frequently punctuated by the touching of a sleeve, touching of the shoulder or patting the back of the person that he is conversing with.

Denied as stated. Because of the above conversation with the supervisor, the Respondent thought it might be a good idea to speak to him and told Z.H. he was taking him to Janoski's Diner for something to eat. The reason was also because Janet Craig, one of the supervisors, had said she did not really want Z.H. to continue his community service there. The Respondent thought it would be a good opportunity to speak with him and get Z.H. away from the fair a timeout to reset. The Respondent also was concerned since Z.H. had been charged with pointing a knife at someone's neck and the Respondent wanted to monitor his progress. The Respondent did not tell him to wait in the car but he does recall driving Z.H. to Our Diner. The Respondent recalls specifically telling Z.H. to contact his parents to make sure it would be okay to take him to the late lunch. The Respondent recalls Z.H. texting, which he believed was to his parents. Z.H. told him that it was ok. Also, Janet Craig had said there was nothing for the young man to do at that point since another volunteer was there. The Respondent thought that if he took him away for a brief period and brought him back, they might have more work for him so that he could get his hours in.

- 24) Denied. The Respondent asked the young man to contact his parents to see if they had any objection and the young man texted and told the Respondent it was ok. The parents were aware of his location at all times. Z.H. has two parents and his own pd.
- 25) Admitted the Respondent went to the restaurant and ate lunch there. He and Z.H. were there for about 30-45 minutes. The Respondent paid for Z.H.'s lunch since Z.H. was only 14 years of age and there was little expectation that Z.H. should pay for the lunch.
- 26) Admitted. The Respondent, on the way back, stopped again at Coen Market. That is the place near the Respondent's judicial office where he likes the coffee and the Respondent bought some coffee. He did buy an item for the young man and vaguely recalls the item to be a cold sports drink which seemed reasonable considering the hot climate on that day.
- 27) Denied. The Respondent brought Z.H. back to the fair and walked around. There was now some work for Z.H., the Respondent did not walk around with Z.H. arm in arm. That is just false. He did introduce him to the Fair Board.
- 28) Denied. The Respondent never called the young man "Red Bone".
- 29) The Respondent does not know what the mother did. The Respondent was cleared of any misconduct.

- 30) The Respondent did not have personal knowledge at the time but it is correct that the matter was sent to the District Attorney's Office which cleared the Respondent of any misconduct.
- 31) Admitted that the President Judge spoke to the Respondent. That meeting again was a cordial meeting and the President Judge just suggested that the Respondent be more sensitive in context with defendants.
  - 32) Denied.
- 33) Admitted that at the time of the hearing, the charges were dismissed against Z.H. because he complied with all of the terms and conditions of the agreement. That is a normal resolution.

#### CHARGES

# COUNT 1 (A-C) - VIOLATION OF CANON 1, RULE 1.2

- 34) Denied. It is emphatically denied that the Respondent violated Rule 1.2.
  - 35) Admitted that Rule 1.2 is correctly quoted.
- 36) Denied. See answers to paragraphs 4 through 10, which are incorporated by reference. The Respondent denies that he failed to promote public confidence in the judiciary. See the above answers.
- 37) Denied. See answers to paragraphs 1 through 16 involving D.M. Denied that there was repeated texting. Denied

that the Respondent showed a pattern of inappropriate and overtly familiar behavior with juvenile males.

38) Denied. See answers to paragraphs 17 through 33, which are incorporated by reference. Denied that the Respondent showed a pattern of inappropriate and overtly familiar behavior with juvenile males.

# COUNT 2 - VIOLATION OF CANON 2, RULE 2.3(B)

- 39) Denied. It is emphatically denied the Respondent violated Rule 2.3(B).
  - 40) Admitted that Rule 2.3(B) is properly quoted.
- 41) Emphatically denied. It is denied the Respondent showed bias or prejudice or engaged in harassment in the performance of his judicial duties with Z.H. and it is denied that he referred to Z.H. as "red bone". That is just false and incorrect.

# COUNT 3 (A & B) - VIOLATION OF CANON 2, RULE 2.9(C)

- 42) Denied. It is denied that the Respondent violated Rule 2.9(C).
  - 43) Admitted that Rule 2.9(C) is properly quoted.
- 44) Denied. The Respondent denies the conduct alleged involving D.M. The Respondent incorporates by reference his answers to paragraphs 11 through 16 and denies any misconduct whatsoever. It should be noted that District Judges, at times,

will routinely check on people in community service. The Respondent denies violating Rule 2.9(C).

45) Denied. The Respondent denies the allegations involving Z.H. and would incorporate by reference his answers to paragraphs 17 through 33. The Respondent denies violating Rule 2.9(C).

# COUNT 4 - VIOLATION OF CANON 2, RULE 2.11

- 46) The Respondent emphatically denies violating Rule 2.11.
- 47) The Respondent admits that Rule 2.11 is properly quoted.
- 48) Denied. The Respondent denies violating Rule 2.11(A) and as to the allegations of his conduct with D.M., the Respondent would incorporate by reference his answers to paragraphs 11 through 16 where he denies he conduct and denies wanting to have a social relationship and denies contacting him frequently on his cellphone.
- 49) The Respondent denies violating Rule 2.11(A). As to the allegations involving Z.H., the Respondent incorporates by reference his detailed answers as set forth in paragraphs 17 through 33 to this Complaint. He would note he tried to help Z.H. based on what the supervisor said to him.

## COUNT 5 (A & B) - VIOLATION OF CANON 3, RULE 3.1

- 50) The Respondent emphatically denies violating Rule 3.1 of the Rules.
- 51) The Respondent admits that Rule 3.1 is properly quoted.
- 52) Denied that the Respondent violated Rule 3.1 in reference to D.M. Denied that he was fostering a social relationship. The Respondent incorporates by reference his answers involving D.M. in paragraphs 11 through 16.
- 53) Denied the Respondent violated Rule 3.1. The Respondent incorporates by reference his detailed answers in paragraphs 17 through 33 in reference to Z.H.

# COUNT 6 - VIOLATION OF CANON 1, RULE 1.1

- 54) The Respondent emphatically denies violating Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 1.1.
- 55) The Respondent admits that Rule 1.1 is properly quoted.
- 56) Denied as stated. That is a conclusion of law, for which no answer is required.
- 57) The Respondent emphatically denies violating Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.3(B), 2.9(C), 2.11 and 3.1
- 58) Denied. The Respondent incorporates by reference his answers in paragraphs 1 through 57 and denies violating any of the charged Rules of Judicial Conduct.

# COUNT 7 - VIOLATION OF ARTICLE V, SECTION 17(B) OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

- 59) The Respondent emphatically denies violating the Pennsylvania Constitution Article V, Section 17(B).
- 60) Admitted that Article V, Section 17(B) is properly quoted.
- 61) Admitted that a violation of the Rules can be a violation of Article V, Section 17(B). But denied that the Respondent violated any of the Rules and denied that he violated Article V, Section 17(B).
- 62) Denied that the Respondent violated Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.3(B), 2.9(C), 2.11 and 3.1. The Respondent would incorporate by reference his answers to paragraphs 1 through 62.
- 63) Denied. The Respondent denies violating Article V, Section 17(B) of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

# COUNT 8 - VIOLATION OF ARTICLE V, SECTION 18(D)(1) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

- 64) Denied. The Respondent emphatically denies violating Article V, Section 18(D)(1) of the Pennsylvania Constitution.
- 65) Admitted that Article V, Section 18(D)(1) is properly quoted and that prohibits a judge from bringing the judicial office into disrepute.
- 66) Denied. The Respondent denies his conduct was so extreme that it brought the judicial office into disrepute. He denies his actions violated any Rules of Judicial Conduct. He

denies that any of the Rules violated the disrepute clause. He would incorporate by reference all of his answers in paragraphs 4 through 33, specifically denying any misconduct. He also would note that disrepute has to bring universal disrepute and denies that there is any such universal disrepute.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis, respectfully requests that he be given a hearing and all the charges of misconduct be dismissed since the evidence will not show by clear and convincing evidence, or by any evidence, that the Respondent violated any of the Rules or any of the constitutional provisions.

# NEW MATTER OF THE RESPONDENT, FORMER JUDGE ANTHONY SAVEIKIS

The Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis, by his attorneys, now raises the following new matter:

allegations involving W.B. that occurred in 2018. It is now 2024. There is a four-year statute of limitations set forth in Judicial Conduct Board Rules of Procedure, Rule 15. That prohibits the Board from considering complaints arising from acts or omissions occurring more than four years prior to the date of the complaint. These acts are more than four years and the allegations involving W.B. in paragraphs 4 through 10 of the Complaint should be dismissed due to four-year statute of limitations issues.

- 68) The Respondent, in reference to W.B. also raises dismissal on the basis of Doctrine of Laches.
- 69) The Respondent by way of New Matter, denies all of the allegations of misconduct and incorporates by reference his answers 4 through 33 denying any misconduct.
- 70) The Respondent denies violating the charged Rules of Conduct and incorporates by reference his answers in paragraphs 1 through 66 of the Complaint.
- 71) The Respondent emphatically denies violating the constitutional provisions charges and incorporates by reference his answers and denials in paragraphs 1 through 66.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis, by and through his counsel, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, Robert G. Del Greco, Jr., Esquire and David J. Shrager, Esquire, respectfully requests that all charges be dismissed for reasons set forth in this Answer and New Matter.

Respectfully submitted

Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis 103 South High Street

P.O. Box 3231

West Chester, PA 19381-3231

(610) 696-4243

Attorney I.D. No. 18491

Respectfully submitted,

Robert G. Del Greco, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis Two PPG Place Suite 15222 Pittsburgh, PA 15222-5402 (412) 281-7272

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney I.D. No. 34247

David J. Shrager, Esquire
Attorney for the Respondent,
Former Judge Anthony Saveikis
437 Grant Street
Suite 617 - Frick Building
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 261-6198
Attorney I.D. No. 83395

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis, hereby verify that the facts set forth in the attached Answer and New Matter to the Complaint filed by the Judicial Conduct Board are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I understand that false statements made herein are subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S.A. Section 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Date: 27 March 2024 Millerry Lewis Cercle wells

# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE: : DOCKET NO. 1 JD 2024

:

JUDGE ANTHONY SAVEIKIS :
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT :
DISTRICT 05-3-17 :
ALLEGHENY 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.

•

Respectfully submitted,

3/29/24

Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis 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 2024

:

JUDGE ANTHONY SAVEIKIS :
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT :
DISTRICT 05-3-17 :
ALLEGHENY COUNTY :

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify I am this date serving a copy of the foregoing Answer and New Matter 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: Stephanie.Stump@pacourts.us

- 3. Elizabeth A. Hoffheins, Esquire Deputy Counsel Judicial Conduct Board 601 Commonwealth Avenue Suite 3500 P.O. Box 62525 Harrisburg, PA 17106-2525 Email: Elizabeth.Hoffheins@jcbpa.org
- 4. Robert G. Del Greco, Jr., Esquire Dickie McCamey & Chilcote, Attorneys at Law 2 PPG Place Suite 400 Pittsburg, PA 15222 Email: RDelGreco@dmclaw.com
- 5. David J. Shrager, Esquire David J. Shrager & Associates 437 Grant Street Suite 617 Pittsburg, PA 15219 Email: David@Shragerdefense.com
- 6. Judge Anthony Saveikis 422 Lincoln Highlands Drive Corapolis, PA 15108 Email: Tony.Saveikis@gmail.com

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis 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 2024

:

JUDGE ANTHONY SAVEIKIS : MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT : DISTRICT 05-3-17 : ALLEGHENY COUNTY :

# ANSWER AND NEW MATTER OF FORMER JUDGE ANTHONY SAVEIKIS

Former Judge Anthony Saveikis, the Respondent, hereby answers the Complaint of the Judicial Conduct Board, by and through his counsel, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, Robert G. Del Greco, Jr., Esquire and David J. Shrager, Esquire, and contends that there was no intentional violation of any Rules and asks for a full hearing on these matters for the following reasons:

- 1) Admitted.
- 2) Admitted. Although Judge Saveikis retired as a District Judge as of January 26th, 2024.
- 3) Admitted that the Judicial Conduct Board made a determination of probable cause. Denied that there was probable cause.

#### ALLEGATIONS INVOLVING W.B.

4) Admitted on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Respondent saw and spoke with W.B. The Respondent often would eat at Janoski's Country Restaurant (present day Lulu's) because he enjoyed the food there and knew the owner and staff very well. Before November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Respondent did not know W.B. The

Respondent has been a family friend of the owners for three generations.

- the restaurant through the kitchen area which is his normal way of entering. He does that since he knows the cooks and also because he has a keen interest in cooking. The Respondent has a background in the food and hospitality industry. Upon entering the kitchen (which has been his custom and practice for many years), the Respondent asked about purchasing some cinnamon rolls. He asked if he could purchase some and was told to speak to W.B. The Respondent introduced himself to W.B., shook his hand and asked some questions since that is the first time he had ever met W.B. It was just a normal friendly conversation which is consistent with the extraverted nature of the Respondent as well as Respondent's extraordinary efforts to know and engage members of his magisterial district.
- 6) Denied as stated. After the brief introductory conversation with W.B., the Respondent asked W.B. where the cinnamon rolls were and W.B. informed the Respondent the cinnamon rolls were in the freezer. The Respondent then went with W.B. into the freezer for the purpose of picking out the cinnamon rolls he wanted to purchase. The freezer door has a spring mechanism that shuts by itself but does not lock. The freezer is in the center of the kitchen surrounded by workers

and adults. The restaurant manager was present. The Respondent was in the freezer for less than one minute and was there for the sole purpose of selecting cinnamon rolls to purchase. Denied that the Respondent touched the shoulder, arms or back of W.B. The only thing the Respondent may have done was give him a pat on the back as a thank you for taking him to purchase the cinnamon rolls. Denied that the Respondent caused W.B. to feel trapped and vulnerable. That is just not accurate.

- 7) Denied as stated. The Respondent did tell W.B. how to ice the pastries that he has ordered. In doing so, the Respondent does not recall taking W.B.'s hand but showed him the swirling motion about how the icing should be applied. The Respondent emphatically denies that there was any sexual suggestiveness. The Respondent paid for the cinnamon rolls and left.
- 8) Denied as stated. The Respondent has no idea when this matter was reported to the police department and how it was referred. But the Respondent was cleared of any wrongdoing.
- 9) Denied. The Respondent had no idea or knowledge about the matter being referred to the District Attorney's Office but it must be noted that the District Attorney's Office brought no charges and cleared the Respondent of any wrongdoing.
- 10) Admitted that the Respondent subsequently met with the President Judge of Allegheny County. The Respondent recalled the

meeting as being a cordial meeting. The Respondent only recalls the President Judge only telling him to be more careful around strangers. It should be noted, the Respondent raises the statute of limitations on W.B.'s false accusations since it is beyond the four-year statute of limitations set forth in Judicial Conduct Board Rules of Procedure, Rule 15.

# ALLEGATIONS INVOLVING D.M.

- 11) Denied as stated. To the Respondent's knowledge, D.M.'s age was 18. Admitted that D.M. was charged with purchase of alcoholic beverages which is a summary offense for anyone under 21 years of age.
- 12) Admitted. This was a normal common and routine resolution of a case for such a charge. The Respondent has often ordered persons in similar situations to attend four AA meetings, to deal with any issues of alcohol abuse, and to do 25 hours of community service. The Respondent has done that hundreds of times during his twenty plus years on the bench.
- 13) Denied as stated. D.M. was completing his community service hours at that event. The Respondent was in attendance there. The Respondent was very active in the community and would often appear at community events to be sure the workers connected with the supervisors. He also was known to check on those doing community service. It is denied that the Respondent would often come to speak with D.M.

- frequently visits Coen Markets as it is a convenient store that was located closest to his judicial office and he liked the coffee they made there. He would go there several times a day because he drank coffee frequently during that time period. It is admitted that D.M. was employed there. It is denied that the Respondent offered to take D.M. out socially. The store manager asked the Respondent to provide some guidance to D.M. The store manager noted the Respondent that D.M. lived in a trailer park and that D.M. was not doing a good job and she did not want him to lose his job. As a result, the Respondent spoke to D.M. to try and provide him some guidance and encouragement and to make sure he kept his job and stayed out of trouble.
- 15) Denied as stated. The Respondent does not have a clear recollection but believes that when he would go to Coen Market, if D.M. was not there, he, at times, would text D.M. to inquire about his whereabouts because of the conversation the Respondent had with the store manager. To the best of the Respondent's recollection, if he texted D.M., it was probably only a few times asking why D.M. was not at work or things of that nature.
- 16) The Respondent at all times was responsible for being the District Judge and D.M.'s case was pending conditioned on D.M. completing the agreement. The case was ultimately dismissed since D.M. complied with the terms and conditions of the

agreement. It must be kept in mind that the Respondent was an extremely active person the community. The Respondent was at many public events, restaurants, and very active in his magisterial district.

# ALLEGATIONS OF Z.H.

- 17) Admitted.
- 18) Admitted. The diversionary program is often suggested in those types of cases and that allows someone to get help and get the charges dismissed. The charge was serious since Z.H., at a birthday party, held a knife to a minor's neck. The police sent this to the District Judge because of the excellent results he was having with juvenile offenders.
- 19) Admitted that Z.H. was ordered to work shifts at the Findlay Fair. The term Clinton Fall Festival is not correct. Z.H. was also ordered to complete a teen accountability class. He had to bring proof of the completion of both conditions to the next hearing which was scheduled for September 27th, 2022. If the conditions were met, the citation would be dismissed. That was the normal common and routine procedure for many District Courts, particularly for first offenders.
  - 20) Admitted.
- 21) Denied as stated. The Findlay Fair began on that day at 10 am with a parade. The Respondent attended and participated in the parade and has done that for as long as he can remember.

As noted, he is very active in the community and in his magisterial district. Unlike elections in the Court of Common Pleas and Pennsylvania Appellate Courts regarding retention, the Respondent was cognizant of the political cycle and requirements to not only garner the nomination but also prevail in a general election. The Respondent attends the Finlay Fair regularly and extensively because of his involvement in the community and his desire to be available to the public. The Respondent has always been a very involved Judge. At the Fair, the Respondent spoke to Janet Craig, who advised him that Z.H. did not seem interested in working. She further advised the Respondent she was averse to having community services done by minors in the first place. The essence of the conversation was that Ms. Craig suggested that the Respondent speak to Z.H. The Respondent then did seek out Z.H. at the request of one of the supervisors.

22) Denied as stated. The Respondent then spoke to Z.H. The Respondent did introduce Z.H. to members of the Board and other individuals. He noted that Z.H. was going to complete his community service and thought it would be a good idea to know and be acquainted with the Board member. Denied that he was touching Z.H. on the arms or shoulders or anything of that nature. It is possible he may have patted him on the back or pulled at his sleeve as admittedly the Respondent is enthusiastic and hearty and regardless of the recipient, his

conversations are always up close and personal frequently punctuated by the touching of a sleeve, touching of the shoulder or patting the back of the person that he is conversing with.

Denied as stated. Because of the above conversation with the supervisor, the Respondent thought it might be a good idea to speak to him and told Z.H. he was taking him to Janoski's Diner for something to eat. The reason was also because Janet Craig, one of the supervisors, had said she did not really want Z.H. to continue his community service there. The Respondent thought it would be a good opportunity to speak with him and get Z.H. away from the fair a timeout to reset. The Respondent also was concerned since Z.H. had been charged with pointing a knife at someone's neck and the Respondent wanted to monitor his progress. The Respondent did not tell him to wait in the car but he does recall driving Z.H. to Our Diner. The Respondent recalls specifically telling Z.H. to contact his parents to make sure it would be okay to take him to the late lunch. The Respondent recalls Z.H. texting, which he believed was to his parents. Z.H. told him that it was ok. Also, Janet Craig had said there was nothing for the young man to do at that point since another volunteer was there. The Respondent thought that if he took him away for a brief period and brought him back, they might have more work for him so that he could get his hours in.

- 24) Denied. The Respondent asked the young man to contact his parents to see if they had any objection and the young man texted and told the Respondent it was ok. The parents were aware of his location at all times. Z.H. has two parents and his own pd.
- 25) Admitted the Respondent went to the restaurant and ate lunch there. He and Z.H. were there for about 30-45 minutes. The Respondent paid for Z.H.'s lunch since Z.H. was only 14 years of age and there was little expectation that Z.H. should pay for the lunch.
- 26) Admitted. The Respondent, on the way back, stopped again at Coen Market. That is the place near the Respondent's judicial office where he likes the coffee and the Respondent bought some coffee. He did buy an item for the young man and vaguely recalls the item to be a cold sports drink which seemed reasonable considering the hot climate on that day.
- 27) Denied. The Respondent brought Z.H. back to the fair and walked around. There was now some work for Z.H., the Respondent did not walk around with Z.H. arm in arm. That is just false. He did introduce him to the Fair Board.
- 28) Denied. The Respondent never called the young man "Red Bone".
- 29) The Respondent does not know what the mother did. The Respondent was cleared of any misconduct.

- 30) The Respondent did not have personal knowledge at the time but it is correct that the matter was sent to the District Attorney's Office which cleared the Respondent of any misconduct.
- 31) Admitted that the President Judge spoke to the Respondent. That meeting again was a cordial meeting and the President Judge just suggested that the Respondent be more sensitive in context with defendants.
  - 32) Denied.
- 33) Admitted that at the time of the hearing, the charges were dismissed against Z.H. because he complied with all of the terms and conditions of the agreement. That is a normal resolution.

# CHARGES

# COUNT 1 (A-C) - VIOLATION OF CANON 1, RULE 1.2

- 34) Denied. It is emphatically denied that the Respondent violated Rule 1.2.
  - 35) Admitted that Rule 1.2 is correctly quoted.
- 36) Denied. See answers to paragraphs 4 through 10, which are incorporated by reference. The Respondent denies that he failed to promote public confidence in the judiciary. See the above answers.
- 37) Denied. See answers to paragraphs 1 through 16 involving D.M. Denied that there was repeated texting. Denied

that the Respondent showed a pattern of inappropriate and overtly familiar behavior with juvenile males.

38) Denied. See answers to paragraphs 17 through 33, which are incorporated by reference. Denied that the Respondent showed a pattern of inappropriate and overtly familiar behavior with juvenile males.

# COUNT 2 - VIOLATION OF CANON 2, RULE 2.3(B)

- 39) Denied. It is emphatically denied the Respondent violated Rule 2.3(B).
  - 40) Admitted that Rule 2.3(B) is properly quoted.
- 41) Emphatically denied. It is denied the Respondent showed bias or prejudice or engaged in harassment in the performance of his judicial duties with Z.H. and it is denied that he referred to Z.H. as "red bone". That is just false and incorrect.

# COUNT 3 (A & B) - VIOLATION OF CANON 2, RULE 2.9(C)

- 42) Denied. It is denied that the Respondent violated Rule 2.9(C).
  - 43) Admitted that Rule 2.9(C) is properly quoted.
- 44) Denied. The Respondent denies the conduct alleged involving D.M. The Respondent incorporates by reference his answers to paragraphs 11 through 16 and denies any misconduct whatsoever. It should be noted that District Judges, at times,

will routinely check on people in community service. The Respondent denies violating Rule 2.9(C).

45) Denied. The Respondent denies the allegations involving Z.H. and would incorporate by reference his answers to paragraphs 17 through 33. The Respondent denies violating Rule 2.9(C).

# COUNT 4 - VIOLATION OF CANON 2, RULE 2.11

- 46) The Respondent emphatically denies violating Rule 2.11.
- 47) The Respondent admits that Rule 2.11 is properly quoted.
- 48) Denied. The Respondent denies violating Rule 2.11(A) and as to the allegations of his conduct with D.M., the Respondent would incorporate by reference his answers to paragraphs 11 through 16 where he denies he conduct and denies wanting to have a social relationship and denies contacting him frequently on his cellphone.
- 49) The Respondent denies violating Rule 2.11(A). As to the allegations involving Z.H., the Respondent incorporates by reference his detailed answers as set forth in paragraphs 17 through 33 to this Complaint. He would note he tried to help Z.H. based on what the supervisor said to him.

## COUNT 5 (A & B) - VIOLATION OF CANON 3, RULE 3.1

- 50) The Respondent emphatically denies violating Rule 3.1 of the Rules.
- 51) The Respondent admits that Rule 3.1 is properly quoted.
- 52) Denied that the Respondent violated Rule 3.1 in reference to D.M. Denied that he was fostering a social relationship. The Respondent incorporates by reference his answers involving D.M. in paragraphs 11 through 16.
- 53) Denied the Respondent violated Rule 3.1. The Respondent incorporates by reference his detailed answers in paragraphs 17 through 33 in reference to Z.H.

# COUNT 6 - VIOLATION OF CANON 1, RULE 1.1

- 54) The Respondent emphatically denies violating Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 1.1.
- 55) The Respondent admits that Rule 1.1 is properly quoted.
- 56) Denied as stated. That is a conclusion of law, for which no answer is required.
- 57) The Respondent emphatically denies violating Rules
  1.1, 1.2, 2.3(B), 2.9(C), 2.11 and 3.1
- 58) Denied. The Respondent incorporates by reference his answers in paragraphs 1 through 57 and denies violating any of the charged Rules of Judicial Conduct.

# COUNT 7 - VIOLATION OF ARTICLE V, SECTION 17(B) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

- 59) The Respondent emphatically denies violating the Pennsylvania Constitution Article V, Section 17(B).
- 60) Admitted that Article V, Section 17(B) is properly quoted.
- 61) Admitted that a violation of the Rules can be a violation of Article V, Section 17(B). But denied that the Respondent violated any of the Rules and denied that he violated Article V, Section 17(B).
- 62) Denied that the Respondent violated Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.3(B), 2.9(C), 2.11 and 3.1. The Respondent would incorporate by reference his answers to paragraphs 1 through 62.
- 63) Denied. The Respondent denies violating Article V, Section 17(B) of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

# COUNT 8 - VIOLATION OF ARTICLE V, SECTION 18(D)(1) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

- 64) Denied. The Respondent emphatically denies violating Article V, Section 18(D)(1) of the Pennsylvania Constitution.
- 65) Admitted that Article V, Section 18(D)(1) is properly quoted and that prohibits a judge from bringing the judicial office into disrepute.
- 66) Denied. The Respondent denies his conduct was so extreme that it brought the judicial office into disrepute. He denies his actions violated any Rules of Judicial Conduct. He

denies that any of the Rules violated the disrepute clause. He would incorporate by reference all of his answers in paragraphs 4 through 33, specifically denying any misconduct. He also would note that disrepute has to bring universal disrepute and denies that there is any such universal disrepute.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis, respectfully requests that he be given a hearing and all the charges of misconduct be dismissed since the evidence will not show by clear and convincing evidence, or by any evidence, that the Respondent violated any of the Rules or any of the constitutional provisions.

# NEW MATTER OF THE RESPONDENT, FORMER JUDGE ANTHONY SAVEIKIS

The Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis, by his attorneys, now raises the following new matter:

allegations involving W.B. that occurred in 2018. It is now 2024. There is a four-year statute of limitations set forth in Judicial Conduct Board Rules of Procedure, Rule 15. That prohibits the Board from considering complaints arising from acts or omissions occurring more than four years prior to the date of the complaint. These acts are more than four years and the allegations involving W.B. in paragraphs 4 through 10 of the Complaint should be dismissed due to four-year statute of limitations issues.

- 68) The Respondent, in reference to W.B. also raises dismissal on the basis of Doctrine of Laches.
- 69) The Respondent by way of New Matter, denies all of the allegations of misconduct and incorporates by reference his answers 4 through 33 denying any misconduct.
- 70) The Respondent denies violating the charged Rules of Conduct and incorporates by reference his answers in paragraphs 1 through 66 of the Complaint.
- 71) The Respondent emphatically denies violating the constitutional provisions charges and incorporates by reference his answers and denials in paragraphs 1 through 66.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis, by and through his counsel, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, Robert G. Del Greco, Jr., Esquire and David J. Shrager, Esquire, respectfully requests that all charges be dismissed for reasons set forth in this Answer and New Matter.

Respectfully submitted

Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis 103 South High Street

P.O. Box 3231

West Chester, PA 19381-3231

(610) 696-4243

Attorney I.D. No. 18491

Respectfully submitted,

Robert G. Del Greco, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis Two PPG Place Suite 15222 Pittsburgh, PA 15222-5402 (412) 281-7272

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney I.D. No. 34247

David J. Shrager, Esquire
Attorney for the Respondent,
Former Judge Anthony Saveikis
437 Grant Street
Suite 617 - Frick Building
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 261-6198
Attorney I.D. No. 83395

1/11

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis, hereby verify that the facts set forth in the attached Answer and New Matter to the Complaint filed by the Judicial Conduct Board are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I understand that false statements made herein are subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S.A. Section 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Date: 27 March 2024 Milleway Sentencho

# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE

IN RE: DOCKET NO. 1 JD 2024

JUDGE ANTHONY SAVEIKIS MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT : **DISTRICT 05-3-17** ALLEGHENY 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.

Respectfully submitted,

3/29/24

Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis 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 2024

:

JUDGE ANTHONY SAVEIKIS :
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT :
DISTRICT 05-3-17 :
ALLEGHENY COUNTY :

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify I am this date serving a copy of the foregoing Answer and New Matter 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: Stephanie.Stump@pacourts.us

- 3. Elizabeth A. Hoffheins, Esquire
  Deputy Counsel
  Judicial Conduct Board
  601 Commonwealth Avenue
  Suite 3500
  P.O. Box 62525
  Harrisburg, PA 17106-2525
  Email: Elizabeth.Hoffheins@jcbpa.org
- 4. Robert G. Del Greco, Jr., Esquire
  Dickie McCamey & Chilcote, Attorneys at Law
  2 PPG Place
  Suite 400
  Pittsburg, PA 15222
  Email: RDelGreco@dmclaw.com
- 5. David J. Shrager, Esquire
  David J. Shrager & Associates
  437 Grant Street
  Suite 617
  Pittsburg, PA 15219
  Email: David@Shragerdefense.com
- 6. Judge Anthony Saveikis
  422 Lincoln Highlands Drive
  Corapolis, PA 15108
  Email: Tony.Saveikis@gmail.com

3/29/24

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire Attorney for the Respondent, Former Judge Anthony Saveikis 103 South High Street

P.O. Box 3231

West Chester, PA 19381-3231

(610) 696-4243

Attorney I.D. No. 18491