

RECEIVED AND FILED

OCT 21 2025

COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE
OF PENNSYLVANIA

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE**

IN RE:

Judge Scott DiClaudio	:	
Court of Common Pleas	:	
First Judicial District	:	2 JD 2025
Philadelphia County	:	

**JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD'S RESPONSE TO RESPONDENT'S MOTION FOR
EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE ANSWER**

AND NOW, this 21st day of October 2025, comes the Judicial Conduct Board of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Board), by and through undersigned counsel, and files this Response to Respondent's Motion for Extension of Time to File Answer and in support thereof avers the following:

1. Admitted.
2. Admitted.
3. Admitted.
4. Admitted. By way of further answer, this Court partially granted Respondent's discovery request, ordering that the Board supply Respondent with statements of those witnesses who would be called by the Board in support of its Petition for Interim Suspension without Pay.
5. Admitted. Board counsel concurs in Respondent's calculus of the due date for his Answer.
6. This paragraph presents legal argument or states conclusions of law, for which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, Board counsel would point to Rule 413 of this Court's Rules of Procedure, which states that failure

to file an Answer constitutes a denial of the factual allegations contained in the Board's Complaint.

7. Admitted. By counsel's calculations, discovery is due by November 9, 2025, at which time all relevant materials in the Board's possession not previously supplied will be passed to Respondent's counsel.
8. This paragraph presents legal argument or states conclusions of law, for which no response is required.
9. Admitted in part, however, counsel has no knowledge as to Respondent's preparations or the time spent thereon.
10. This paragraph presents legal argument or states conclusions of law, for which no response is required. To the extent that a response is necessary, Board counsel served upon Respondent a Notice of Full Investigation (NOFI), which detailed the allegations later memorialized in the Board's Complaint on July 2, 2025. On July 22, 2025, the date that a response would have been due, counsel entered his appearance on Respondent's behalf and requested an extension of time to respond. Respondent's counsel submitted his response on August 22, 2025. The Board's Complaint and Petition for Relief were then filed with this Court on September 9, 2025, and served upon Respondent's attorney via overnight mail on September 10, 2025. A hearing on the Board's Petition for Interim Suspension without Pay was held on October 6, 2025, which further fleshed out the allegations contained in the NOFI and the Board's Complaint, and which occurred fourteen (14) business days prior to the date on which Respondent's Answer is due.

11. This paragraph presents legal argument or states conclusions of law, for which no response is required. To the extent that a response is necessary, Board counsel would refer to Paragraph 10, above.

12. This paragraph constitutes a prayer for relief, for which no response is necessary. To the extent a response is required, Board counsel would submit to this Court that a 60-day extension to file an Answer, which would push the due date for this filing to December 23, 2025, is excessive in light of the timeline set forth in Paragraph 10, above.

13. This paragraph presents legal argument or states conclusions of law, for which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, Board counsel would again point to Rule 413 of this Court's Rules of Procedure, stating that failure to file an Answer constitutes a denial of the allegations contained in the Board Complaint.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully requested that this Honorable Court deny Respondent's Motion for Extension of Time to File Answer or, in the alternative, grant only such an extension as is reasonable in light of the facts above, the undisputed timeline of events thus far, and this Court's Rules of Procedure.

Respectfully submitted,

MELISSA L. NORTON
Chief Counsel

DATE: October 21, 2025

By:



Elizabeth A. Hoffheins
Deputy Counsel
Pa. Supreme Court ID No. 209623
Judicial Conduct Board
Pennsylvania Judicial Center
601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500
Harrisburg, PA 17106
(717) 234-7911

VERIFICATION

I, Elizabeth A. Hoffheins, Deputy Counsel to the Judicial Conduct Board, verify that the statements herein are true and correct and 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: October 21, 2025

By:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Hoffheins", is written over a horizontal line.

Elizabeth A. Hoffheins
Deputy Counsel
Pa. Supreme Court ID No. 209623
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 Scott DiClaudio	:	
Court of Common Pleas	:	
First Judicial District	:	2 JD 2025
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:	Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania
Signature:	
Name:	ELIZABETH A. HOFFHEINS Deputy Counsel
Attorney No.:	209623

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COURT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE**

IN RE:

Judge Scott DiClaudio	:	
Court of Common Pleas	:	
First Judicial District	:	2 JD 2025
Philadelphia County	:	

PROOF OF SERVICE

In compliance with Rule 122 of the Court of Judicial Discipline Rules of Procedure, on the below date a copy of the Judicial Conduct Board's Response to Respondent's Motion for Extension of Time to File Answer was served by First Class Mail and Email upon Michael T. van der Veen, Esquire counsel for Judge DiClaudio at the following address:

Michael T. van der Veen, Esquire
Van Der Veen, Hartshorn, Levine & Lindheim
1219 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Via Email: mtv@mtvlaw.com; aleasure@mtvlaw.com; AGustafson@mtvlaw.com;
klogan@mtvlaw.com; jmorace@mtvlaw.com

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: October 21, 2025

By:


Elizabeth A. Hoffheins
Deputy Counsel
Pa. Supreme Court ID No. 209623
Judicial Conduct Board
Pennsylvania Judicial Center
601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 3500
P.O. Box 62525
Harrisburg, PA 17106
(717) 234-7911