

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT
1501 W. Washington St., Suite 229
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
July 27, 2015

News Release

COMMISSION HEARING ON FORMAL CHARGES AGAINST FLAGSTAFF JUSTICE OF THE PEACE HOWARD GRODMAN

PHOENIX. The Commission on Judicial Conduct announced today that a hearing to consider formal charges of judicial misconduct against Flagstaff Justice of the Peace Howard Grodman will commence at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7, 2015, in Room 109 of the State Courts Building, 1501 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. The formal charges allege that Judge Grodman violated a number of rules governing the conduct of judges during his primary reelection campaign in 2014.

Acting Disciplinary Counsel Meredith Vivona will represent the commission in this proceeding. Attorney Robert Van Wyck will represent Judge Grodman. The evidence will be heard by nine members of the commission serving as a hearing panel. Appellate Court Judge Margaret Downie, a judge member of the commission, will serve as the presiding hearing panel member.

Following the presentation of evidence and arguments by the parties, the hearing panel will consider the evidence and prepare and file findings of facts, conclusions of law, and a recommendation whether the judge did or did not engage in judicial misconduct. As to any finding that the judge did engage in judicial misconduct, the hearing panel will recommend the level of sanction that should be imposed, which could range from a public reprimand to removal from office. A sanction of public censure, suspension, or removal is subject to review and/or approval by the Arizona Supreme Court.

The hearing is open to the public. Reporters who wish to photograph, tape record, or videotape all or part of the proceedings should submit a written request for this purpose to the commission's office in advance of the hearing. Written requests may be submitted by e-mail to cjc@courts.az.gov or by mail to the address listed above.

For more information, contact

Heather Murphy
Arizona State Judiciary Communications Officer
Telephone: (602) 452-3656