

State of Arizona  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT  
1501 W. Washington St., Suite 229  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
June 20, 2017

# *News Release*

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## **COMMISSION HEARING ON FORMAL CHARGES AGAINST PIMA COUNTY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PAULA ABOUD**

PHOENIX. The Commission on Judicial Conduct announced today that a hearing to consider formal charges of judicial misconduct against Pima County Justice of the Peace Paula Aboud will commence at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, August 14, 2017, in Room 109 of the State Courts Building, 1501 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. The formal charges allege that Judge Aboud violated several rules governing the conduct of judges while attending Limited Jurisdiction New Judges Orientation during the week of January 9-13, 2017.

Disciplinary Counsel April Elliott will represent the commission in this proceeding. Attorney Thomas Higgins will represent Judge Aboud. The evidence will be heard by a commission-appointed hearing officer, the Honorable Lawrence Winthrop, Arizona Court of Appeals, Division One.

Following the presentation of evidence and arguments by the parties, the hearing officer will consider the evidence and prepare and file findings of facts, conclusions of law, and a decision whether the judge engaged in judicial misconduct. As to any finding that the judge engaged in judicial misconduct, the hearing officer will determine 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](mailto:cjc@courts.az.gov) or by mail to the address listed.

### **For more information, contact**

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