

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT
1501 W. Washington St., Suite 229
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
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News Release

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT ORDERS FLAGSTAFF JUSTICE OF THE PEACE HOWARD GRODMAN SUSPENDED FOR 90 DAYS WITHOUT PAY

PHOENIX. The Arizona Supreme Court issued an order on Wednesday, September 23, 2015, suspending Flagstaff Justice of the Peace Howard Grodman, without pay, for a period of 90 days from the date of the Court's order. The Court also ordered Judge Grodman to pay the costs and attorney's fees incurred by the Commission on Judicial Conduct in preparing for and conducting the formal hearing that took place on August 7, 2015.

In issuing its order, the Supreme Court accepted the Commission on Judicial Conduct Hearing Panel's August 24, 2015, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommendations, which sets forth Judge Grodman's misconduct warranting the 90 day suspension without pay. The Hearing Panel found that Judge Grodman violated a number of rules governing the conduct of judges during his primary reelection campaign in 2014. Judge Grodman's misconduct included improperly using his court-provided email account; improperly using robed photographs as part of his political campaign; improperly campaigning during court hours; improperly campaigning during official court events; improperly posting campaign signs at a United States Post Office in violation of federal law; using "crude, offensive and disparaging language directed at his campaign opponent"; improperly endeavoring to obtain campaign endorsements; improperly retaliating against his campaign opponent; and failing to be candid and honest with the commission. Judge Grodman did not oppose or seek to modify the Hearing Panel's Recommendations.

The Supreme Court's order in this matter is final.

For more information, contact

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