

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:)
)
APPOINTMENT OF) Administrative Order
INDEPENDENT BAR COUNSEL) No. 2019 - 118
)
)
_____)

The Arizona Supreme Court (“Court”) has jurisdiction over any person engaged in the practice of law within the State of Arizona, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. 31, and all lawyers are subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction of this Court, id. R. 46. This Court has previously delegated the duty to investigate and, when necessary, prosecute lawyer discipline matters to the State Bar of Arizona and its Lawyer Regulation Office.

By Administrative Order No. 2018-20, the Court established the position and Office of Independent Bar Counsel (IBC) to handle matters in which the ability of the State Bar Lawyer Regulation Office to properly discharge its obligations under the Rules of the Supreme Court of Arizona in connection with a matter may be compromised by a specified conflict of interest or may reasonably be questioned.

Based on Administrative Order No. 2018-20 (4)(b), Chief Bar Counsel requests that lawyer disciplinary charges filed on September 3, 2019 against subsequently appointed Justice William Montgomery be assigned to the IBC for review and disposition. Additionally, Chief Bar Counsel requests charges filed on the same date against Juan Martinez be assigned to the IBC due to the interrelationship of these charges with the charges against Justice William Montgomery.

Therefore, pursuant to Article III and Article VI, Section 1 and 3 of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that Independent Bar Counsel is appointed to provide review and disposition of the lawyer disciplinary matters regarding Justice William Montgomery and Juan Martinez initiated by the charges filed on September 3, 2019 in accordance with Administrative Order No. 2018-20.

Dated this 25th day of September, 2019.

ROBERT BRUTINEL
Chief Justice