

SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of) Arizona Supreme Court
) No. JC-15-0001
HONORABLE LARRY A. BRAVO,)
Superior/Kearny Justice Court,) Commission on Judicial
Pinal County,) Conduct
State of Arizona,) No. 14-373
)
Respondent.)
) **FILED 6/26/2015**
)
_____)

O R D E R

This matter having come before the Supreme Court, it having duly considered the stipulated resolution between disciplinary counsel for the Commission on Judicial Conduct and Respondent, and the recommendation of the Commission's hearing panel to approve the agreed to sanction, all applicable rights to object to or petition for modification of the recommendation having been waived by Respondent, and the Court having no further responsibility for review pursuant to Rule 29(g) of the Rules of Procedure for the Commission on Judicial Conduct,

IT IS ORDERED that Judge Larry A. Bravo is hereby censured for violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct as set forth in the Stipulated Resolution, which is attached hereto.

DATED this 26th day of June, 2015.

Janet Johnson
Clerk of the Court

TO:

Cody N Weagant
April Phillips Elliott
Hon. George A Riemer
Kimberly Welch
Hon. Stephen F McCarville
Sandra Montoya
Maret Vessella
Lexis Nexis
Mary Pieper
Netz Tuvera

bp

April P. Elliott (Bar # 016701)
Disciplinary Counsel
Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct
1501 West Washington Street, Suite 229
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Telephone: (602) 452-3200
Email: aelliott@courts.az.gov

FILED
MAY 04 2015
ARIZONA COMMISSION ON
JUDICIAL CONDUCT

**STATE OF ARIZONA
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

Inquiry concerning)	
	)	Case No. 14-373
Judge Larry A. Bravo)	
Superior-Kearny Justice Court	)	STIPULATED RESOLUTION
Pinal County	)	FOR PURPOSES OF
State of Arizona	)	DISCIPLINE BY CONSENT
)	
Respondent)	

Respondent Judge Larry A. Bravo together with Disciplinary Counsel for the Commission on Judicial Conduct, April P. Elliott, hereby stipulate that:

JURISDICTION

1. The Commission on Judicial Conduct (hereafter "Commission") has jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to Article 6.1, §4 of the Arizona Constitution and the Rules of the Commission.
2. Respondent has served as a justice of the peace in Pinal County since January 2007 and continues to hold that position. In addition, since 2004, Respondent has served as magistrate for the Town of Hayden. He was serving in his capacity as a judge at all times relevant to these allegations.
3. As a judge, Respondent is subject to the 2009 Code of Judicial Conduct (Code)

as set forth in Supreme Court Rule 81.

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

4. On February 10, 2015, Disciplinary Counsel filed a Statement of Charges against Respondent after the Commission found reasonable cause to begin formal proceedings. Respondent filed an Answer to the Statement of Charges on February 24, 2015. The parties now agree to this stipulated resolution of the matter.

STIPULATED FACTS

5. Respondent has executed an affidavit avowing that the following statement of facts is true and correct as to his knowledge and action in the events of this case.
6. Andrew Halvorsen was previously a defendant in two cases in the Superior-Kearny Justice Court, Case Nos. TR20070681 and CR20100036.
7. On or about October 15, 2012, Andrew Halvorsen sought and obtained an Order of Protection against J.B. from Respondent in Cause No. CV20120163 of the Superior-Kearny Justice Court.
8. On or about the same date, October 15, 2012, a quitclaim deed was executed (but not recorded) transferring interest in a mining claim from Steve Karolyi and Tina Lilly to Andrew Halvorsen and Respondent.
9. Respondent was not aware of the transfer at this time.
10. On January 29, 2013, J.B. requested a hearing on the Order of Protection, which Respondent set for hearing on February 6, 2013.
11. On February 5, 2013, Respondent dismissed the Order of Protection as Mr. Halvorsen did not appear for the hearing.

12. Respondent acknowledges that he knew Mr. Halvorsen would not be available for the hearing on February 6, 2013, and therefore, he conducted the hearing and dismissed the Order. He acknowledges that if Mr. Halvorsen had been available, he would not have conducted this hearing.
13. On or about March 21, 2013, Andrew Halvorsen sought and obtained a second Order of Protection against J.B. from Respondent in Cause No. CV20130032 of the Superior-Kearny Justice Court.
14. Following the issuance of the March 21, 2013, Order, Respondent admits to an ex parte conversation with Mr. Halvorsen in which Mr. Halvorsen advised he had placed a mining claim partially in Respondent's name. Respondent avows this is the first time he became aware of the deed. Respondent avows he did not request or authorize Mr. Halvorsen to place the claim partially in his name.
15. Upon learning of a mining claim being placed partially in his name without his knowledge or consent, Respondent failed to take any action to investigate the ethics of the matter or divest himself of the mining claim until December 2014, after the original complaint had been filed with the Commission on Judicial Conduct against Respondent in this matter.
16. On April 2, 2013, the quitclaim deed executed on October 15, 2012, was recorded with the Pinal County Recorder's Office.
17. On April 3, 2013, J.B. requested a hearing on the most recent Order of Protection. Respondent heard her request and set a hearing for April 10, 2013. Respondent requested a pro-tem judge sit in his place for the hearing.

18. On April 10, 2013, the hearing on the Order of Protection was held before justice of the peace pro-tem David Orzell. Judge Orzell upheld the Order.
19. J.B. appealed the Order of Protection on April 24, 2013. On June 28, 2013, Judge Orzell entered an order deeming her appeal abandoned after J.B. fails to file her appellate memorandum.
20. Respondent did not declare his interest in this mining claim on his annual financial disclosure statements for 2013 and 2014.
21. Respondent never disclosed his prior interactions with Mr. Halvorsen to J.B. during either of the Order of Protection proceedings.
22. On or about December 23, 2014, after a complaint had been initiated with the Commission, Respondent quitclaimed his interest in the mining claim to Mr. Halvorsen's sister, J.E.S..

AGREEMENT

23. Respondent agrees that his conduct, as stipulated and described above, constitutes ethical misconduct in violation of Rules 1.2, 2.4(C), 2.9(A), 2.11(A), 2.11(B), 3.13(A), 3.13(C), and 3.15 of the Code of Judicial Conduct. It further constitutes conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice that brings the judicial office into disrepute, in violation of Article 6.1, Section 4, of the Arizona Constitution.

MITIGATING AND AGGRAVING FACTORS

24. The parties stipulate to the following mitigating (m) and aggravating (a) factors pursuant to Commission Rule 19:
 - a. Respondent failed to investigate and/or take remedial measures to divest

- himself of his interest in the mining claim for well over a year after the fact, and only after a complaint was initiated by the Commission. (a)
- b. Respondent has been a judicial officer in Pinal County since 2004 and should have known his conduct as described above constituted ethical misconduct. (a)
- c. Respondent has had no prior public discipline (m). However, Respondent has previously received a private advisory regarding a violation of Rule 1.2 (a).
- d. Respondent fully cooperated with the commission in these proceedings. (m)
- e. By signing this Stipulated Resolution for censure, Respondent has recognized and acknowledged the wrongful nature of the charged conduct. (m)

AGREED UPON SANCTION

25. Respondent agrees to accept a Public Censure for the judicial misconduct he engaged in, as set forth in this agreement.

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS

26. This agreement, if accepted by the hearing officer, fully resolves all issues raised in the Statement of Charges and may be used as evidence in later proceedings in accordance with the Commission's Rules. If the hearing officer does not accept this agreement as a full resolution, Respondent's admissions are withdrawn, and the matter will be set for hearing without use of this agreement.
27. This Stipulated Resolution resolves the complaint against Respondent filed by "anonymous" on November 25, 2014.
28. Pursuant to Commission Rule 28(a), both parties waive their right to appeal any

issue in this matter, including through the appeal procedures set out in
Commission Rule 29.

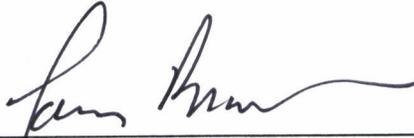
29. Both parties agree not to make any statements to the press that are contrary to
the terms of this agreement.

30. Both parties will pay their own costs and attorneys' fees associated with this
case.

31. Respondent clearly understands the terms and conditions of this agreement, has
reviewed it with his attorney, and fully agrees with the terms and conditions of
this agreement.

32. This agreement constitutes the complete understanding between the parties.

SUBMITTED this ___ day of April, 2015.



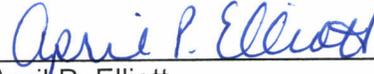
Hon. Larry A. Bravo
Respondent

Date 4-27-15



Cody N. Weagant
Attorney for Respondent

Date 4-29-15



April P. Elliott
Disciplinary Counsel

Date 5-4-15

April P. Elliott (Bar # 016701)
Disciplinary Counsel
Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct
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FILED
MAY 04 2015
ARIZONA COMMISSION ON
JUDICIAL CONDUCT

**STATE OF ARIZONA
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

Inquiry concerning)	
	)	Case No. 14-373
Judge Larry A. Bravo)	
Superior-Kearny Justice Court	)	AFFIDAVIT OF
Pinal County	)	LARRY A. BRAVO
State of Arizona)	
)	
Respondent)	

STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
County of Pinal)

Larry A. Bravo (hereinafter referred to as “Respondent”), being duly sworn upon oath, deposes and states as follows:

1. I am presently the justice of the peace for Superior-Kearny Justice Court.
2. I acknowledge that the following statement of facts is true and correct as to my knowledge and action in the events of this case.

3. Andrew Halvorsen was previously a defendant in two cases in the Superior-Kearny Justice Court, TR20070681 and CR20100036.
4. On or about October 15, 2012, Andrew Halvorsen sought and obtained an Order of Protection against J.B. from Respondent in Cause No. CV20120163 of the Superior-Kearny Justice Court.
5. On or about the same date, October 15, 2012, a quitclaim deed is executed (but not recorded) transferring interest in a mining claim from Steve Karolyi and Tina Lilly to Andrew Halvorsen and Respondent.
6. Respondent was not aware of the transfer at this time.
7. On January 29, 2013, J.B. requested a hearing on the Order of Protection, which Respondent set for hearing on February 6, 2013.
8. On February 5, 2013, Respondent dismisses the Order of Protection as Mr. Halvorsen did not appear for the hearing.
9. Respondent acknowledges that he knew Mr. Halvorsen would not be available for the hearing on February 6, 2013, and therefore, he conducted the hearing and dismissed the Order. He acknowledges that if Mr. Halvorsen had been available, he would not have conducted this hearing.
10. On or about March 21, 2013, Andrew Halvorsen sought and obtained a second Order of Protection against J.B. from Respondent in Cause No. CV20130032 of the Superior-Kearny Justice Court.

11. Following the issuance of the March 21, 2013, Order of Protection, Respondent admits to an ex parte conversation with Mr. Halvorsen in which Mr. Halvorsen advised he had placed a mining claim partially in Respondent's name. Respondent avows this is the first time he became aware of the deed. Respondent avows he did not request or authorize Mr. Halvorsen to place the claim partially in his name.
12. Upon learning of a mining claim being placed partially in his name without his knowledge or consent, Respondent failed to take any action to investigate the ethics of the matter or divest himself of the mining claim until December 2014, after the original complaint had been filed with the Commission on Judicial Conduct against Respondent in this matter.
13. On April 2, 2013, the quitclaim deed executed on October 15, 2012, was recorded with the Pinal County Recorder's Office.
14. On April 3, 2013, J.B. requested a hearing on the most recent Order of Protection. Respondent heard her request and set a hearing for April 10, 2013. Respondent requested a pro-tem judge sit in his place for the hearing.
15. On April 10, 2013, the hearing on the Order of Protection was held before justice of the peace pro-tem David Orzell. Judge Orzell upheld the Order.

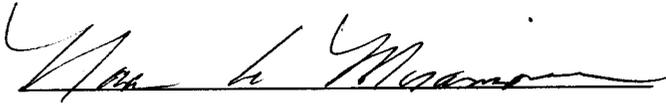
16. J.B. appealed the Order of Protection on April 24, 2013. On June 28, 2013, Judge Orzell entered an order deeming her appeal abandoned after J.B. failed to file her appellate memorandum.
17. Respondent did not declare his interest in this mining claim on his annual financial disclosure statements for 2013 and 2014.
18. Respondent never disclosed his prior interactions with Mr. Halvorsen to J.B. during either of the Order of Protection proceedings.
19. On or about December 23, 2014, after a complaint had been initiated with the Commission, Respondent quitclaimed his interest in the mining claim to Mr. Halvorsen's sister, J.E.S..

Further affiant sayeth not.

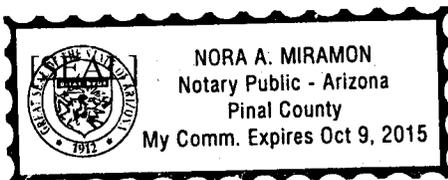


Larry A. Bravo

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 15 day of April, 2015, by Larry A. Bravo whose identity was known to me or satisfactorily proven to me.



Notary Public



Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct
1501 West Washington Street, Suite 229
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Telephone: 602-452-3200

STATE OF ARIZONA

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Inquiry concerning)	
	)	Case No. 14-373
Judge Larry A. Bravo)	
Superior/Kearny Justice Court	)	TRANSMITTAL OF THE
Pinal County	)	RECORD TO THE
State of Arizona	)	SUPREME COURT
)	
Respondent.)	
_____)	

The following documents are hereby filed with the Arizona Supreme Court:

1. Notice of Filing with the Supreme Court
2. Statement of Charges
3. Notice of Institution of Formal Proceedings
4. Answer to Statement of Charges
5. Record of Appointment of Hearing Officer
6. Stipulated Resolution
7. Affidavit of Judge Larry A. Bravo
8. Order Approving Stipulated Resolution; Recommending Approval by Commission

9. Recommendation

10. Proposed Order

SUBMITTED this 22nd day of June, 2015.

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

/s/ Kimberly Welch

Kimberly Welch

Commission Specialist

Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct
1501 West Washington Street, Suite 229
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Telephone: (602) 452-3200

FILED

FEB 10 2015

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON
JUDICIAL CONDUCT

**STATE OF ARIZONA
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

Inquiry concerning)	
	)	Case No. 14-373
Judge Larry A. Bravo)	
Superior/Kearney Justice Court	)	NOTICE OF INSTITUTION OF
Pinal County	)	FORMAL PROCEEDINGS
State of Arizona)	
)	
Respondent)	

To Judge Larry A. Bravo:

You are hereby notified that the Commission on Judicial Conduct has instituted formal proceedings against you in accordance with Rule 24 of the Rules of the Commission on Judicial Conduct ("Rules") to inquire into the charges specified in the attached Statement of Charges. You are also notified that a hearing will be held before a Hearing Officer to determine whether or not these charges constitute grounds for your censure, suspension, removal from office as a judge, or other appropriate discipline as provided in Article 6.1, § 4, of the Arizona Constitution.

You are further notified that:

1. April P. Elliott, Attorney at Law, will act as disciplinary counsel for the Commission in this matter, to gather and present evidence before the Commission on the charges.

2. You have the right, pursuant to Rule 25(a), to file a written response to the charges made against you within 15 days after personal service of this notice upon you or within 20 days of the date this notice is mailed. An original signed copy of the response must be filed in the Commission's office by 5:00 p.m. on the required date.

3. Upon receipt of your response, or upon expiration of the time in which a response may be filed, the Commission will open and maintain a public file containing the Notice of Institution of Formal Proceedings, the Statement of Charges, and all subsequent pleadings filed with the Commission. This file and the formal hearing in this case shall be open to the public in accordance with Rule 9(a).

4. You have the right to be represented by counsel, to examine and cross-examine witnesses and to require the issuance of subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses or for the production of any evidentiary matters necessary for your defense.

5. During the pendency of these proceedings, you or the Commission may refer to or use prior cases, if any, pertaining to previous complaints or discipline for the purpose of determining the severity of the sanction, a pattern of misconduct, or exoneration.

Dated this 10th day of February, 2015.

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT



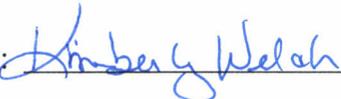
George A. Riemer
Executive Director

A copy of this pleading was served on February 10, 2015,
upon Respondent, Judge Larry A. Bravo, via email to his counsel:

Cody N. Weagant, Esq.
Wallace, Volkmer & Weagant, PLLC
P.O. Box 12363
Casa Grande, AZ 85130
cweagant@gmail.com

A copy of this pleading was hand-delivered on February 10, 2015, to:

April P. Elliott
Disciplinary Counsel
Commission on Judicial Conduct

By: 

April P. Elliott (Bar # 016701)
Disciplinary Counsel
Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct
1501 West Washington Street, Suite 229
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Telephone: (602) 452-3200
Email: aelliott@courts.az.gov

FILED

FEB 10 2015

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON
JUDICIAL CONDUCT

**STATE OF ARIZONA
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

Inquiry concerning)	
	)	Case No. 14-373
Judge Larry A. Bravo)	
Superior-Kearny Justice Court	)	STATEMENT OF CHARGES
Pinal County)	
State of Arizona)	
)	
Respondent)	

The Commission on Judicial Conduct (Commission) determined that there is reasonable cause to commence formal proceedings against Judge Larry A. Bravo (Respondent) for misconduct in office. This statement of charges sets forth the Commission's jurisdiction and specifies the nature of the alleged misconduct.

JURISDICTION

1. The Commission has jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to Article 6.1, § 4 of the Arizona Constitution and the Rules of the Commission.
2. This Statement of Charges is filed pursuant to Rule 24(a) of those rules (Commission Rules).
3. Respondent has served as a justice of the peace in Pinal County since January 2007 and continues to hold that position. In addition, since 2004, Respondent has served as magistrate for the Town of Hayden. He was serving in his capacity as a judge at all times relevant to these allegations.

4. As a judge, Respondent is subject to the 2009 Code of Judicial Conduct (Code) as set forth in Supreme Court Rule 81.

PRIOR DISCIPLINE

5. Closed files pertaining to discipline of Respondent may be referred to and used by the Commission or by Respondent for the purpose of determining the severity of the sanction, a pattern of misconduct, or exoneration of the judge pursuant to Commission Rule 22(e).

6. Consistent with the requirements of Commission Rule 22(e), undersigned Disciplinary Counsel (Counsel) notified Respondent on February 6, 2015, that his prior disciplinary history, as set forth below, may be so used.

Case No. 2005-124, Confidential Reprimand

7. The complainant alleged that Respondent attempted to have another judge reduce or waive his fine on a traffic citation, and that after he was told to report his conduct to the Commission, Respondent failed to self-report. Respondent admitted the allegations and apologized.

8. The Commission found Respondent violated Canons 2B and 3D(1) of the 1993 Code.

9. In reaching its decision, the Commission noted, "This behavior was egregious, but based on your recent election to office, the commission determined that this informal sanction was sufficient."

Case No. 2008-244, Private Advisory Letter

10. The complainant alleged the Respondent was biased, corrupt, failed to disqualify himself, and made wrong rulings. The complainant had worked on Respondent's vehicle. Complainant came before Respondent as a defendant on a protective order proceeding, and Respondent failed to disclose their prior relationship. Respondent ruled against complainant, and someone else at the court told complainant the Respondent was unhappy with how his vehicle ran.

11. The Commission issued an advisory letter regarding Respondent's obligation to disqualify himself and avoiding the appearance of impropriety.

Case No. 2013-194, Private Warning

12. The complainant alleged Respondent engaged in an improper ex parte meeting.

13. While the Commission found that Respondent did not violate the Code as to the ex parte allegation, the Commission issued a warning letter regarding certain comments he made during the hearing, specifically noting that intemperate or inappropriate comments made in future proceedings could result in a sanction for judicial misconduct in violate of Rule 2.8 of the Code.

Case No. 2014-282, Private Warning

14. The complainant alleged that Respondent improperly used a photograph of himself on the bench in an election campaign advertisement.

15. While the Commission determined Respondent should not have used the photo in question in his election campaign, the Scope Section of the Code contemplates that not every transgression will result in the imposition of discipline, and the Commission determined that no formal discipline was warranted after considering all the facts and circumstances. The Commission did issue Respondent a private warning letter concerning the restrictions of Rule 4.1(A)(8).

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

16. Respondent is currently a justice of the peace for the Superior-Kearny Justice Court, Pinal County, Arizona.

17. Andrew Halvorsen was a defendant in two cases in the Superior-Kearny Justice Court – TR20070681 and CR20100036.

18. In 2012, Mr. Halvorsen and Respondent acquired property together in the form of a mining claim. Mr. Halvorsen claims that he was told he could not acquire the property entirely in his own name, and placed Respondent's name on the deed initially without Respondent's knowledge, but later informed him of the acquisition of one-half the property in each of their names. Respondent did not take steps to divest himself of this property interest until after a complaint had been filed with the Commission.

19. In 2012 and 2013, Mr. Halvorsen appeared in Respondent's court on at least two occasions as a plaintiff in a protective order proceeding. Respondent did not disclose his relationship or joint property ownership with Mr. Halvorsen to the other litigant.

Timeline involving Respondent and Andrew Halvorsen

Prior Appearances & Acquisition of Property

20. Between the dates of July 12, 2007, and November 26, 2007, Cause No. TR20070681 (State v. Andrew Halvorsen) is active and heard by Respondent in the Superior-Kearny Justice Court.

21. Between the dates of March 1, 2010, and September 7, 2010, Cause No. CR20100036 (State v. Andrew Halvorsen) is active and heard by Respondent in the Superior-Kearny Justice Court.

22. On or about October 15, 2012, a quitclaim deed is executed transferring interest in a mining claim from Steve Karolyi and Tina Lilly to Andrew Halvorsen and Respondent.

23. Respondent claims he was not aware of this transfer at the time.

Orders of Protection & Recordation of Property

24. On or about October 15, 2012, Andrew Halvorsen sought and obtained an Order of Protection against Judy Benson from Respondent in Cause No. CV20120163 of the Superior-Kearny Justice Court.

25. On January 29, 2013, Judy Benson requested a hearing on the Order of Protection, which Respondent set for hearing on February 6, 2013.

26. On February 6, 2013, Respondent dismisses the Order of Protection as Mr. Halvorsen did not appear for the hearing.

27. Respondent acknowledges that he knew Mr. Halvorsen would not be available for the hearing on February 6, 2013, and therefore, he conducted the hearing and dismissed the Order. He acknowledges that if Mr. Halvorsen had been available, he would not have conducted this hearing.

28. On or about March 21, 2013, Andrew Halvorsen sought and obtained an Order of Protection against Judy Benson from Respondent in Cause No. CV20130032 of the Superior-Kearny Justice Court.

29. Following the issuance of the March 21, 2013, Order, Respondent admits to an ex parte conversation with Mr. Halvorsen in which Mr. Halvorsen advises he had placed a mining claim into his name. Respondent alleges this is the first time he became aware of the deed. Respondent claims he did not authorize Mr. Halvorsen to place the claim partially in his name.

30. Upon information and belief, Respondent was aware of this transaction as early as January or February 2013, prior to the second Order of Protection being issued. Mr. Halvorsen left the country for a 3-4 month period of time after the October 15, 2012, issuance of the Order of Protection. Upon his return, he notified Respondent of the mining claim.

31. Upon learning of a mining claim being placed in his name allegedly without his knowledge or consent, Respondent fails to take any action to divest himself of the property.

32. On April 2, 2013, the quitclaim deed executed on October 15, 2012, is recorded with the Pinal County Recorder's Office.

33. On April 3, 2013, Judy Benson requests a hearing on the most recent Order of Protection. Respondent hears her request and sets a hearing for April 10, 2013.

34. On April 10, 2013, the hearing on the Order of Protection is held before justice of the peace pro-tem David Orzell. Judge Orzell upholds the Order.

35. Judy Benson appeals the Order of Protection on April 24, 2013. On June 28, 2013, Judge Orzell enters an order deeming her appeal abandoned after Ms. Benson fails to file her appellate memorandum.

36. Upon information and belief, Respondent did not declare his interest in this mining claim on his annual financial disclosure statements for 2013 and 2014.

37. Upon information and belief, Respondent never disclosed his relationship with Mr. Halvorsen to Judy Benson during either of the Order of Protection proceedings.

38. On or about December 23, 2014, after a complaint had been initiated with the Commission, Respondent quitclaimed his interest in the mining claim to Mr. Halvorsen's sister, Julie Ellen Stang.

VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

39. Respondent's conduct, as described above in Paragraphs 26-38 violated the following provisions of the Code and Arizona Constitution. Specifically:

- A. Rule 1.2 which requires a judge to "act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary," and to "avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety."
- B. Rule 2.4(C) which requires that "a judge shall not convey or permit others to convey the impression that any person or organization is in a position to influence the judge."
- C. Rule 2.9(A) which requires that a judge "shall not initiate, permit, or consider ex parte communications, or consider other communications made to the judge outside the presence of the parties or their lawyers, concerning a pending or impending matter."
- D. Rule 2.11(A) which requires that a judge "shall disqualify himself or herself in any proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might be questioned."
- E. Rule 2.11(B) which requires a judge to "keep reasonably informed about the judge's personal and fiduciary economic interests."
- F. Rule 3.13(A) which requires a judge not to "accept any gifts, loans, bequests, benefits, or other things of value, if acceptance is prohibited by law or would appear to a reasonable person to undermine the judge's independence, integrity, or impartiality."
- G. Rule 3.13(C) and Rule 3.15. Rule 3.13(C) requires a judge to "report the acceptance of any gift, loan, bequest, or other thing of value as required by Rule 3.15." Article 6.1, Section 4, of the Arizona Constitution, which forbids a judge to engage in conduct that is

prejudicial to the administration of justice that brings the judicial office into disrepute.”

REQUESTED RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Disciplinary Counsel hereby requests that a duly appointed hearing officer recommend to the Supreme Court that Respondent be censured, suspended, or removed from judicial office; that costs be assessed against Respondent pursuant to Commission Rule 18(e); and that the court grant such other relief as it deems appropriate.

Dated this 10th day of February, 2015.

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

April P. Elliott

April P. Elliott
Disciplinary Counsel

A copy of this pleading was served on February 10, 2015, upon Respondent, Judge Larry A. Bravo, via email to his counsel:

Cody N. Weagant, Esq.
Wallace, Volkmer & Weagant, PLLC
P.O. Box 12363
Casa Grande, AZ 85130
cweagant@gmail.com

By: *Kimberly Welch* _____

April P. Elliott (Bar # 016701)
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Telephone: (602) 452-3200
Email: *aelliott@courts.az.gov*

FILED

JUN 04 2015

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON
JUDICIAL CONDUCT

**STATE OF ARIZONA
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

Inquiry concerning)	
	)	Case No. 14-373
Judge Larry A. Bravo)	
Superior-Kearny Justice Court	)	ORDER APPROVING
Pinal County	)	STIPULATED RESOLUTION;
State of Arizona,	)	RECOMMENDING APPROVAL BY
	)	COMMISSION
Respondent)	

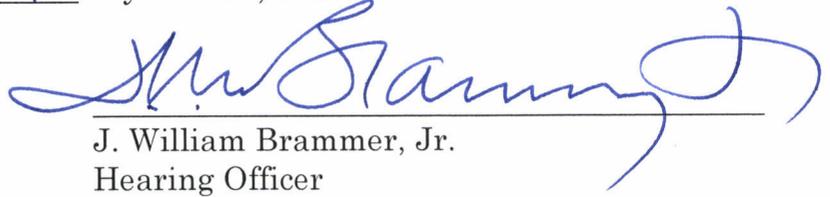
On February 10, 2015, the Commission on Judicial Conduct (“Commission”) filed a Statement of Charges against Justice of the Peace Larry A. Bravo (“Respondent”) following the Commission’s finding of reasonable cause to believe grounds for discipline existed that could not be resolved through dismissal or informal sanctions. Contemporaneously, the Commission chair appointed the undersigned as hearing officer to conduct a hearing and recommend a proper disposition of the charges to the Commission. Respondent filed his answer to the Statement of Charges on February 24, 2015.

On May 27, 2015, Respondent and Disciplinary Counsel submitted a Stipulated Resolution (“Resolution”) to the undersigned in which Respondent has agreed to a public censure for misconduct in office. As part of the Resolution, the

parties have waived their right to file any objections to the agreement or to the censure before the hearing officer, the Commission, and the Arizona Supreme Court.

Having fully considered the Resolution within the context of Commission Rule 30(b), the undersigned approves the Resolution and recommends the commission accept it, and then recommend to the Arizona Supreme Court that Respondent be censured publicly for the rule violations as set forth herein.

Approved and signed this 1st day of June, 2015.



J. William Brammer, Jr.
Hearing Officer

Copies of this document were sent via U.S. mail, hand-delivered, and emailed this 4th day of June, 2015, to:

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By: 

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FILED

JUN 17 2015

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON
JUDICIAL CONDUCT

**STATE OF ARIZONA
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

Inquiry concerning)	
	)	Case No. 14-373
Judge Larry A. Bravo)	
Superior-Kearny Justice Court	)	RECOMMENDATION
Pinal County)	
State of Arizona)	
)	
Respondent)	

On February 10, 2015, the Commission on Judicial Conduct (“Commission”) filed a Statement of Charges against Justice of the Peace Larry A. Bravo (“Respondent”) following a finding of reasonable cause to pursue the stated charges in a formal proceeding by the Commission. Simultaneously, the Commission chairperson appointed a hearing officer to hear and take evidence in the case.

On May 27, 2015, Respondent and Disciplinary Counsel subsequently submitted a Stipulated Resolution (“Resolution”) to the hearing officer in which Respondent agreed to a public censure for misconduct in office. The hearing officer recommended the Commission accept the Resolution on June 1, 2015. On June 12, 2015, the nine members of the Commission present unanimously voted to accept the Resolution. As part of the Resolution, Respondent waived his right to appeal and

other procedural rights set forth in Rule 29 of the Rules of the Commission on Judicial Conduct.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission now recommends to the Arizona Supreme Court that Respondent be censured for misconduct in office as set forth in the Resolution.

DATED this 17th day of June, 2015.

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ Louis Frank Dominguez
Hon. Louis Frank Dominguez
Chair of the Commission

Copies of this pleading were delivered and emailed this 17th day of June, 2015, to:

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By: /s/ Kim Welch
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STATE OF ARIZONA

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Inquiry concerning)	
)	Case No. 14-373
Judge Larry A. Bravo)	
Superior/Kearny Justice Court	)	STATEMENT REGARDING
Pinal County	)	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
State of Arizona)	
)	
Respondent.)	
_____)	

In lieu of a comprehensive certificate of service, the Commission on Judicial Conduct has included a specific certification as to the service of each document contained within its Record, which is herewith filed with the Arizona Supreme Court in the above-captioned matter. Undersigned Disciplinary Counsel thus affirms that all portions of the record submitted as part of this matter to the Supreme Court have been properly served within the Commission’s rules on Respondent Judge Bravo.

SUBMITTED this 22nd day of June, 2015.

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

/s/ April P. Elliott
April P. Elliott, SBN 016701
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STATE OF ARIZONA

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Inquiry concerning)	
)	Case No. 14-373
Judge Larry A. Bravo)	
Superior/Kearny Justice Court	)	NOTICE OF FILING WITH
Pinal County	)	THE SUPREME COURT
State of Arizona)	
)	
Respondent.)	
_____)	

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Commission's recommendation in the above-entitled case, together with all other pertinent pleadings contained in the record, were filed on this date with the Clerk of the Arizona Supreme Court, 1501 West Washington Street, Suite 402, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Copies of the pleadings, along with this notice, were promptly served on Respondent.

The Commission accepted a stipulated resolution for discipline by consent in this case in the best interest of the public, and pursuant to guidance provided in previous cases in which the Commission was encouraged to pursue alternative resolutions. *In Re Braun*, 180 Ariz. 240, 242, 883 P.2d 996, 998 (1994); *In Re Garcia*, 180 Ariz. 294, 296, 884 P.2d 180, 182 (1994).

The Clerk of the Supreme Court is advised that the Respondent has waived the right in Rule 29(c) of the Rules of the Commission on Judicial Conduct to petition the Court to modify or reject the Commission's recommendation and the right to request oral argument. This matter, therefore, may be deemed submitted pursuant to Rule 29(e).

Dated this 22nd day of June, 2015.

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

/s/ George A. Riemer

George A. Riemer
Executive Director

Copies of this pleading were delivered via email only, this 22nd day of June, 2015, to:

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By: /s/ Kimberly Welch

Kimberly Welch
Commission Specialist