

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 03- 9148

ORDER CREATING TASK FORCE ON CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

ORDERED that:

1. The Texas Code of Judicial Conduct is intended to state “basic standards which should govern the conduct of all judges and to provide guidance to assist judges in establishing and maintaining high standards of judicial and personal conduct.” Since our last overall review of the Code in March of 1994, much has changed in the ethical and legal landscape that governs the conduct of judges in Texas. Because the “basic standards” governing the judiciary have evolved, it is time to review our Code to ensure that the integrity and independence of our judiciary is preserved.

2. Accordingly, the Court appoints members of the bench, bar and general public to review the Code of Judicial Conduct and make recommendations to this Court for revisions required by law, to make suggestions on improving the effectiveness of existing canons, and to suggest other modifications consistent with the Code’s broad purpose of upholding the integrity, independence and competence of the judiciary. The Committee is chaired by Charles Babcock of Dallas. Justice Wallace B. Jefferson is the Court’s liaison to the Committee. The Court asks the Executive Director of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct and the Dean of the Texas College for Judicial Studies to serve as advisory members of the Committee. The committee members are:

Appellate Judges

Chief Justice Alma Lopez
Justice Brian Quinn
Justice Douglas Lang
Justice Mack Kidd
Justice Kem Frost

District Judges

Judge Abe Lopez
Judge Levi Benton
Judge Menton Murray
Judge S. Grant Dorfman
Judge Sid Harle
Judge Ben Woodward

County Judges

Judge Jane Roden
Judge Rudolfo Gonzalez
Judge Margaret Keliher

Justice Court Judges

Judge Marcia Weiner

Municipal Court Judges

Judge Monica Gonzalez

Attorney Members

Jim George
Guy V. Harrison
Wayne Fisher
George McWilliams
Roberto L. Ramirez
Sharon Callaway

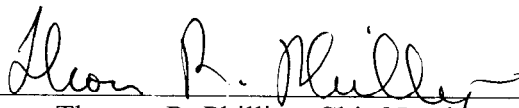
Academic Members

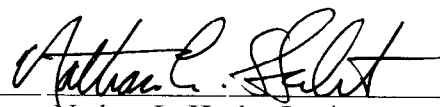
Prof. Douglas Laycock
Prof. Elaine Carlson
Dean John B. Attanasio
Dean Walter B. Huffman
Dean James Alfini

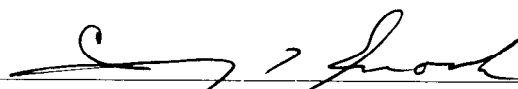
Public Members

George Edwards
Scott Mann

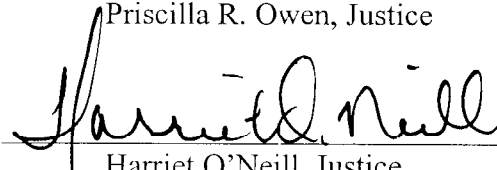
SIGNED AND ENTERED this 21st day of August, 2003.


Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice


Nathan L. Hecht, Justice


Craig T. Enoch, Justice


Priscilla R. Owen, Justice


Harriet O'Neill, Justice

Wallace B. Jefferson
Wallace B. Jefferson, Justice

Michael H. Schneider
Michael H. Schneider, Justice

S. W. Smith
Steven Wayne Smith, Justice

J. Dale Wainwright
J. Dale Wainwright, Justice