

**BEFORE THE
FLORIDA JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION
STATE OF FLORIDA**

**INQUIRY CONCERNING A JUDGE,
THE HONORABLE GISELE POLLACK
Nos. 13-633, 14-151, 14-187**

SC14-_____

NOTICE OF FORMAL CHARGES

TO: The Honorable Gisele Pollack
Broward County Court Judge
201 S. E. 6th Street, Room 358
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301

The Investigative Panel of the Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission, at its meeting on May 16, 2014, by a vote of the majority of its members, pursuant to Rule 6(f) of the Rules of the Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission and Article V, Section 12 (b) of the Constitution of the State of Florida, finds that probable cause exists for formal proceedings to be instituted against you. Probable cause exists on the following formal charges:

1. On December 17, 2013 you were acting erratically at the Broward County Courthouse.
2. You had suffered a relapse in your struggle with alcohol and you took the bench while intoxicated.
3. On Friday, February 21, 2014, you met with the Investigative Panel at its meeting in Tallahassee. As a result of that meeting you entered into a Stipulation with

the Commission in which agreed to refrain from the use of alcohol, but if you did, use alcohol, you agreed not to take the bench. The Stipulation was executed March 3, 2014.

4. On March 19, 2014 you took the bench while impaired. Judge Zeller was forced to intervene and ask you to leave the bench. You were impaired to the extent that Judge Zeller had to physically assist you in walking. Subsequently you took a leave of absence from the Court and you enrolled in an inpatient substance abuse treatment.

5. On May 1, 2014 you walked away from the inpatient substance abuse program. You drove from the inpatient substance abuse program towards Ft. Lauderdale. You became intoxicated.

6. Sometime around 1:30 a.m. on May 2, 2014, police reports indicate that you were involved in a motor vehicle crash in Plantation Florida. The vehicle you were operating struck another vehicle, causing personal injuries. You were arrested and charged with Driving Under the Influence Causing Property Damage and Failure to Use Due Care.

7. Through counsel, you do not contest that the foregoing behavior violated the terms of the Stipulation entered into with the Commission on March 3, 2014.

The foregoing conduct constitutes inappropriate conduct that violates Canons 1, 2A, 3A, 3B(4), and 5A of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

You are hereby notified of your right to file a written answer to these charges within twenty (20) days of service of this notice upon you. The original of your

response and all subsequent pleadings must be filed with the Clerk of the Florida Supreme Court, in accordance with the Court's requirements. Copies of your response should be served on the undersigned Special Counsel for the Judicial Qualifications Commission, and the General Counsel of the Commission.

JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION

/s/ Michael L. Schneider

By: Michael L. Schneider
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Investigation has been furnished by E-Mail on this the 22nd day of May, 2014, to the following:

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/s/ Michael L. Schneider

Michael L. Schneider
General Counsel