

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE  
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FOR RELEASE  
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JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE COMMISSION INSTITUTES FORMAL  
PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING COMMISSIONER TAYLOR CULVER

The Commission on Judicial Performance has instituted formal proceedings to inquire into matters concerning Commissioner Taylor Culver of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The commencement of formal proceedings is not a determination of judicial misconduct. The Notice of Formal Proceedings is available for public inspection at the commission office. A copy of the Notice of Formal Proceedings is also posted on the commission's website at <http://cjp.ca.gov> (under "Recent News"). Commissioner Culver's Answer to the Notice is due November 3, 2016. Upon filing, the commissioner's answer will be made available for public inspection.

In accordance with the rules that govern commission proceedings, a hearing will be conducted by Special Masters appointed by the Supreme Court. At the hearing, the parties will have an opportunity to introduce evidence and examine and cross-examine witnesses. Commission Trial Counsel Mark A. Lizarraga and Assistant Trial Counsel Bradford L. Battson will serve as Examiners for the commission. Commissioner Culver is represented by Attorney Arthur J. Harris of San Francisco.

Following completion of the hearing, the Special Masters will provide the commission with a report containing findings with respect to the charges. The parties will have an opportunity to present their views on the report to the commission through briefing and argument. If the commission determines that the charges are proved by clear and convincing evidence, it is empowered to discipline the commissioner, including finding him unfit to serve as a subordinate judicial officer. Charges that the commission determines are not proved will be dismissed. A determination by the commission to discipline a judicial officer is subject to discretionary review by the Supreme Court upon petition by the judicial officer.

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The commission is composed of three judges, two lawyers and six public members. The chairperson is Anthony P. Capozzi, Esq., of Fresno. Commission members Ms. Mary Lou Aranguren and Hon. Erica R. Yew are recused in this matter.

For further information about the Commission on Judicial Performance, see the commission's website at <http://cjp.ca.gov>.