

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE
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FOR RELEASE
June 1, 2022

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE ISSUES DECISION AND
ORDER IMPOSING PUBLIC ADMONISHMENT ON JUSTICE VANCE W. RAYE
PURSUANT TO STIPULATION

The Commission on Judicial Performance has issued a decision and order imposing a public admonishment of Justice Vance W. Raye of the California Court of Appeal, Third District, pursuant to stipulation. Following a preliminary investigation, Justice Raye, through his counsel, Edith R. Matthai, and Director-Chief Counsel Gregory Dresser proposed a Stipulation for Discipline by Consent pursuant to Commission Rule 116.5. The stipulation included Justice Raye's agreement to retire from office and not to serve in a judicial capacity again. The Decision and Order Imposing Public Admonishment is issued pursuant to that stipulation, which the commission approved.

The commission determined that it should issue a public admonishment of Justice Raye for engaging in a pattern of delay in deciding approximately 200 appellate matters over a ten-year period. Also, over that ten-year period, Justice Raye failed to properly exercise his administrative and supervisory authority, as Presiding Justice of the Third District, to provide a forum for the expeditious resolution of appellate disputes. Both with respect to the court as a whole (in his role as Presiding Justice) and as to cases assigned to him personally, Justice Raye failed to encourage and adopt reasonable procedures to ensure that priority and older cases were decided first. In some cases assigned to him, Justice Raye's conduct caused prejudice to the parties to the actions. Justice Raye's agreement to retire and not to serve in a judicial capacity adequately protects the public from further misconduct.

The commission's Decision and Order of Public Admonishment is available on the commission's website at <https://cjp.ca.gov> (under "Pending Cases - Press Releases & Documents" and "Public Discipline & Decisions"). Justice Raye is represented by Edith R. Matthai, Esq., of Los Angeles.

The commission is composed of six public members, three judges, and two lawyers. The chairperson is Hon. Michael B. Harper.

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