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COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE ISSUES DECISION AND ORDER IMPOSING PUBLIC CENSURE AND BAR ON JUSTICE WILLIAM J. MURRAY, JR. (RET.) PURSUANT TO STIPULATION

The Commission on Judicial Performance has issued a decision and order imposing a public censure and bar upon Justice William J. Murray, Jr. (Ret.) of the California Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District, pursuant to stipulation. The decision and order resolved the pending formal proceedings involving former Justice Murray. Former Justice Murray stipulated to imposition of a public censure and bar, which prohibits former Justice Murray from serving in any judicial capacity. A public censure and bar is the most severe form of discipline that the commission can issue to a retired judicial officer.

The commission issued a public censure and bar to former Justice Murray for engaging in a pervasive pattern of neglect and chronic decisional delay spanning ten years. Former Justice Murray failed to promptly author opinions in 132 cases for at least three years. As detailed in the commission's decision and order, former Justice Murray's decisional delay caused actual prejudice to litigants in seven separate matters.

The commission's Decision and Order is available on the commission's website at https://cjp.ca.gov (under "Pending Cases - Press Releases & Documents" and "Public Discipline & Decisions"). Former Justice Murray is represented by Randall A. Miller, Esq.; Andrew J. Waxler, Esq.; and Jeanette Chu, Esq. of Miller Waxler, LLP of Los Angeles.

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The commission is composed of six public members, three judges, and two lawyers. The chairperson is Hon. Lisa B. Lench. Commission members Rickey Ivie, Esq. and Hon. Kimberly Merrifield are recused in this matter.

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