

BEFORE THE STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

IN RE: HONORABLE CRAIG A. FLETCHER RUSK, CHEROKEE COUNTY, TEXAS CJC No. 14-0928-CC

VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT TO RESIGN FROM JUDICIAL OFFICE IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

This Agreement is being entered into by the undersigned parties pursuant to Section 33.032(h) of the Texas Government Code.

WHEREAS at all times relevant hereto, the Honorable Craig A. Fletcher was Judge of the Cherokee County Court at Law, in Rusk, Cherokee County, Texas, and

WHEREAS a complaint was opened by the Commission alleging that Judge Fletcher had violated the Code of Judicial Conduct by signing an Order modifying the conditions of probation in a case that was not assigned to his court, and

WHEREAS on or about December 9, 2013, Judge Fletcher officially and formally resigned from office, and

WHEREAS no Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law have been made in connection with the above-referenced matter, and

WHEREAS the parties agree that the allegations of judicial misconduct, if found to be true, could result in further disciplinary action against Judge Fletcher, and

WHEREAS the parties to this Agreement are desirous of resolving this matter without the time and expense of further disciplinary proceedings, and

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED that Judge Fletcher, upon the signing of this Agreement, agrees that he has officially and formally resigned his judicial duties and is entering into this Agreement to resolve the above-referenced complaint in lieu of disciplinary action by the Commission, pursuant to Section 33.032(h) of the Texas Government Code. The Commission agrees that it shall pursue no further disciplinary proceedings against Judge Fletcher in connection with the above-referenced matter.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that, upon the Commission's approval of this Agreement, Judge Fletcher shall be forever disqualified from judicial service in the State of Texas, including (a) sitting or serving as a judge, (b) standing for election or appointment to a judicial office, and/or (c) performing or exercising any judicial duties or functions of a judicial officer, including the performance of wedding ceremonies:

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that any violation of this Agreement by Judge Fletcher would constitute willful or persistent conduct that is clearly inconsistent with the proper performance of his duties or casts public discredit upon the judiciary or administration of justice in violation of Art. 5, §1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution, and Section 33.001(b) of the Texas Government Code.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that the Commission may enforce this Agreement through any legal process necessary, including injunctive relief; that Travis County, Texas, shall be the proper venue for any dispute between the parties or proceeding relating to this Agreement; and that Judge Fletcher, individually, shall bear the expense, cost, and any reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees in the event any dispute arising under this Agreement is decided against him by any court or tribunal.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that Judge Fletcher, by his execution of this voluntary agreement, does not admit guilt, fault or liability regarding the matters contained in the complaint referenced above.

AGREED TO AND ACCEPTED upon its execution by the parties.

HON, STEVEN L. SEIDER, CHAIR

Date: October 15, 2014

STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL

CONDUCT

Date: 10-1-20/0

VERIFICATION

State of Texas
County of Cherollee §

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared CRAIG A. FLETCHER, who by me being first duly sworn, on his oath deposed and said that the above "Voluntary Agreement to Resign from Judicial Office in Lieu of Disciplinary Action" is a true and correct recitation of the facts and accurately reflects her understanding of the terms and conditions of, and voluntary consent to enter into, such Agreement.

SWORN TO BEFORE ME, on this the <u>lst</u> day of <u>October</u>, 2014.

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Cara Jeanette Kettrie, NOTARY PUBLIC, IN AND FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS