



**BEFORE THE STATE COMMISSION
ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

CJC No. 24-0434

**PUBLIC ADMONITION
AND
ORDER OF ADDITIONAL EDUCATION**

**HONORABLE JASON DUNN
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PCT. 4
NEW CANEY, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS**

During its meeting on April 2-3, 2025, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct concluded a review of the allegations against the Honorable Jason Dunn, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4, in New Caney, Montgomery County, Texas. Judge Dunn was advised by letter of the Commission's concerns and provided a written response. On June 5, 2025, Judge Dunn appeared before the Commission and gave testimony regarding this matter.

After considering the evidence before it, the Commission enters the following Findings and Conclusions:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Honorable Jason Dunn, was the Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4, in New Caney, Montgomery County, Texas.
2. Judge Dunn is the owner of two Facebook accounts: (1) Jason Dunn, Montgomery County Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4 ("JP4 Facebook Page"), and (2) Jason Dunn ("Dunn Facebook Page"). The JP4 Facebook Page is Judge Dunn's official Justice of the Peace Facebook page, and the Dunn Facebook Page is Judge Dunn's personal Facebook page. The Dunn Facebook Page references him as the Montgomery County Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4. The Dunn Facebook Page links directly to the JP4 Facebook Page.

3. Judge Dunn is the co-owner of the Dunn Right RV Park along with his wife, who also owns the Dunn Right Waterin' Hole ("Waterin' Hole").¹
4. On September 30, 2022, a video advertising "Fajitas for a Fighter", a fundraising event being held at the Waterin' Hole, was posted to Facebook, with the Dunn Right RV Park Facebook Page tagged.
5. Judge Dunn appears in the video and is identified by Constable Rowdy Hayden as "Justice of the Peace Jason Dunn." Judge Dunn states the fundraiser will be held at the Waterin' Hole, which is also advertised in the video at its end.
6. On seven different occasions, Judge Dunn and/or his staff accepted gifts of food from local organizations and his administrative manager posted about the gifts on the JP4 Facebook Page. Specifically, Judge Dunn accepted gifts from: (i) Shipley Donuts gifted by the East Montgomery County Republican Women; (ii) Cookies from the H-Town Dream Center; (iii) Rosati's Pizza; (iv) Seafood from Southern Style Seafood and New Caney Fence; (v) Crumble Cookies; (vi) Barbeque lunch from The Rusty Buckle BBQ and Rhoden Real Estate; and (vii) a cake from H-E-B.
7. Judge Dunn's administrative manager posted on the JP4 Facebook page fundraiser advertisements for the Community Assistance Center and the "Sharing is Caring" food drive for Mission Northwest.
8. On two different occasions, Judge Dunn and/or his staff accepted gifts of food from local organizations and Judge Dunn posted about each gift on the Dunn Facebook Page. Specifically, Judge Dunn accepted a barbeque lunch from The Rusty Buckle BBQ and Rhoden Real Estate, which was reposted from the JP4 Facebook Page, and pastries from the East Montgomery County Republican Women.
9. Judge Dunn also posted advertisements for local businesses to the Dunn Facebook Page, including advertisements for: (i) CLP Pool Supplies; (ii) EMC Car Care & Towing, L.L.C.; (iii) K'jon T. Farms; (iv) Hottail'z Crawfish and Seafood; (v) Woodroe's Bait Shop; and (vi) Metts Firewood.
10. Judge Dunn posted on the Dunn Facebook Page fundraiser advertisements for: (i) "Thanksgiving Turkeys" for Grace Covenant Baptist Church; (ii) "Hope, Healing, & Handbags" for The Winterrose Crusades; (iii) "Crawfish Boil & Fish Fry" hosted by EMC Buyers Group for FFA & 4-H Students; (iv) a "Garage Sale" for Grace Covenant Baptist Church; and (v) "Sharing is Caring" food drive for Mission Northeast.
11. Judge Dunn reposted, on the Dunn Facebook Page, a post from East Montgomery County Republican Women, which showed a photo of two women campaigning for President Donald Trump. The content of the post indicated early voting was still available and advertised Trump "merch" with the hashtag "#MAGA2024."
12. In his written responses to the Commission's inquiry, Judge Dunn stated he has administrative rights over the JP4 Facebook page, but his administrative manager is responsible for managing and overseeing it.
13. Judge Dunn acknowledged he is the owner of the Dunn Facebook page, and that he has control and decision-making abilities over it.

¹ The Waterin' Hole is now closed.

14. Judge Dunn stated he “acknowledged” on Facebook the Fajitas for a Fighter fundraiser, a community driven event supporting a local Marine veteran battling cancer. However, he denied receiving any personal, professional, direct or indirect benefit from the event.
15. Judge Dunn admitted in his response that his administrative manager posted to the JP4 Facebook page advertisements for various fundraisers and local businesses that provided gifts to the court, but denied the posts involved any direct solicitation or financial benefit. Rather, Judge Dunn stated the posts were made as part of “routine community engagement.”
16. Judge Dunn acknowledged he posted and shared to the Dunn Facebook Page various advertisements for fundraisers, local businesses, and those businesses that provided gifts to the court. However, Judge Dunn clarified he purchased the lunch for his staff from Southern Style Seafood on May 18, 2021.
17. Judge Dunn denied endorsing any “candidate, organization or private entity for personal gain,” but stated the intent of sharing certain posts were to promote community awareness rather than to advocate for any particular entity or campaign.
18. During his appearance before the Commission, Judge Dunn testified The Rusty Buckle BBQ was a gift to his clerk from the clerk’s mother, the owner of Rhoden Real Estate. However, Judge Dunn later testified this was in celebration of his fiftieth birthday.
19. Judge Dunn testified his administrative manager was allowed to post to the JP4 Facebook Page. Also, Judge Dunn was aware of the posts being made and admitted he was responsible for his administrative manager’s actions, including all the posts made to his JP4 Facebook Page.
20. Also, Judge Dunn testified his administrative manager was aware of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct but could not indicate where she received this training or education.
21. Further, Judge Dunn testified the posts were made without further comment from himself and no one asked him to make these posts, but acknowledged the public could perceive special relationships between himself and the posted businesses.
22. Judge Dunn testified that since receiving notice of this Commission’s inquiry, he has implemented a new policy that he and his staff will no longer accept gifts. Additionally, Judge Dunn testified that only public notices will be posted on the JP4 Facebook Page, and that he will no longer promote businesses or fundraisers on the Dunn Facebook Page.

RELEVANT STANDARDS AND AUTHORITIES

1. Canon 2B of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct provides, in relevant part: “A judge shall not lend the prestige of judicial office to advance the private interests of the judge or others.”
2. Canon 4A(1) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct provides, in relevant part: “A judge shall conduct all of the judge’s extra-judicial activities so that they do not cast reasonable doubt on the judge’s capacity to act impartially as a judge.”
3. Canon 4C(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct provides, in relevant part: “A judge shall not solicit funds for any educational, religious, charitable, fraternal, or civic organization.”
4. Canon 4D(4) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct provides, in relevant part: “Neither a judge nor a family member residing in the judge’s household shall accept a gift, bequest, favor, or loan from anyone.”

5. Canon 5(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct provides, in relevant part: "A judge ... shall not authorize the public use of his or her name endorsing another candidate for any public office."

CONCLUSION

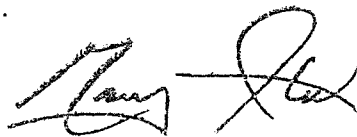
Based on the record before it and the factual findings recited above, the Texas State Commission on Judicial Conduct has determined that the Honorable Jason Dunn, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4, in New Caney, Montgomery County, Texas, should be publicly admonished and ordered to obtain additional education for: (1) lending the prestige of his office to advance the private interests of others by advertising local businesses on his personal and judicial Facebook pages; (2) casting reasonable doubt on his capacity to act impartially as a judge when he endorsed various businesses and people on his personal and judicial Facebook pages; (3) accepting gifts from local businesses and organizations; (4) soliciting funds for local causes on his personal and judicial Facebook pages; and (5) sharing a post endorsing President Donald Trump on his personal Facebook page, in violation of Canons 2B, 4A(1), 4C(2), 4D(4), and 5(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.

Pursuant to this Order, Judge Dunn must obtain **two (2) hours** of instruction with a mentor, in addition to his required annual judicial education for Fiscal Year 2025. In particular, the Commission desires that Judge Dunn receive **two (2) hours** of this additional education in the area of social media and the judiciary. Pursuant to the authority contained in Section 33.036 of the Texas Government Code, the Commission authorizes the disclosure of certain information relating to this matter to the Texas Justice Court Training Center to the extent necessary to enable that entity to assign the appropriate mentor for Judge Dunn.

Judge Dunn shall complete the additional **two (2) hours** of instruction recited above within **60 days** from the date of written notification of the assignment of a mentor. Upon receiving such notice, it is Judge Dunn's responsibility to contact the assigned mentor and schedule the additional education.

The Commission has taken this action pursuant to the authority conferred it in Article V, Section 1-a(8) of the Texas Constitution in a continuing effort to protect the public and promote public confidence in the judicial system.

Issued this the 16 day of June, 2025.



Gary Steel
Chair, State Commission on Judicial Conduct