



**BEFORE THE STATE COMMISSION
ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

CJC No. 23-0170

PUBLIC REPRIMAND

**HONORABLE HOMER JASSO
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PCT. 4, PL. 2
EDINBURG, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS**

During its meeting on April 5-6, 2023, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct concluded a review of the allegations against the Honorable Homer Jasso, Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4, Pl. 2, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas. Judge Jasso was advised by letter of the Commission's concerns and did not provide a written response.

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 Homer Jasso, was a Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4, Pl. 2 in Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas.
2. Judge Jasso was required to take 20 hours of judicial education every Academic Year as a justice of the peace.
3. Judge Jasso did not complete his 20 hours of judicial education for the 2020-2021 Academic Year.
4. Judge Jasso did not complete his 20 hours of judicial education for the 2021-2022 Academic Year.
5. Judge Jasso did seek and was granted an extension to make up his educational requirements for the 2020-2021 Academic Year while taking his educational requirements for the 2021-2022 Academic Year.
6. Judge Jasso did not make up his educational requirement for the 2020-2021 Academic Year nor did he take his educational requirements for the 2021-2022 Academic Year.

7. On November 15, 2022, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct sent a Letter of Inquiry to Judge Jasso to the mailing address of his court. He was given until November 30, 2022 to respond. Judge Jasso did not respond.
8. On January 23, 2023, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct sent another Letter of Inquiry to Judge Jasso's home address after discovering he did not run for re-election in 2022. He was given until February 6, 2023 to respond. Judge Jasso did not respond.

RELEVANT STANDARDS AND AUTHORITIES

1. Canon 2A of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct provides that a judge shall comply with the law and should act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary.
2. Canon 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct states, in pertinent part: "A judge...shall maintain professional competence in [the law]."
3. Article V, Section 1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution provides, in relevant part, that a judge shall not engage in "willful or persistent conduct" that "is clearly inconsistent with the proper performance of his duties or casts public discredit upon the judiciary..."
4. Section 33.001(b)(5) of Texas Government Code provides that a judge's failure to cooperate with the Commission constitutes "willful or persistent conduct that is clearly inconsistent with the proper performance of a judge's duties," and therefore a violation of Article V, Section 1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution.
5. Rule 3a(2) of the Rule of Judicial Education provides, in relevant parts, "Each Justice of the Peace will, as an official duty: ... in each fiscal year thereafter, complete 20 hours of instruction approved by a justice court education committee in the performance of the duties of office."
6. Rule 9b of the Rule of Judicial Education provides: "After the end of each grant year, the Register will report to the applicable Education Committee the name of any judge or judicial officer who had not accumulated the minimum hours of education for that year, including such judges who are leaving office and do not plan to run for another term."
7. Rule 10a of the Rules of Judicial Education provides: "Upon receipt of the reports required by Rule 9b, the applicable Education Committee will advise the named judges or judicial officers of the deficiency. Within 30 days of the receipt of such notice, the judge or judicial officer may submit a statement of the reasons that prevented compliance. Thereafter, unless the applicable Committee grants a waiver for good cause shown, it will report the name of the judge or judicial officer to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct by November 1."

CONCLUSION

Based on the record before it and the factual findings recited above, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct has determined that the Honorable Homer Jasso, Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4, Pl. 2, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas, should be publicly reprimanded for failing to complete his judicial education for the 2020 -2021 & 2021-2022 Academic Years and failing to cooperate with the Commission. Judge Jasso's failure in these respects constituted willful or persistent conduct that is clearly inconsistent with the proper performance of his duties and cast public discredit upon the judiciary or the administration

of justice, in violation of Canons 2A and 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct, Section 33.001(b)(5) of the Texas Government Code and Article V, Section 1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution.

The Commission has taken this action pursuant to the authority conferred it in Article V, Sec. 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 8th day of June, 2023.



Gary L. Steel
Chairman, State Commission on Judicial Conduct