

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE  
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION MEETING**

**Monday, 10 November 2025 at 11:00 a.m.**

**Judicial Conduct Commission  
1385 S. State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84115**

**Meeting was conducted at anchor location**

**Present:**

Ms. Cheylynn Hayman Chair  
Ms. Michele Ballantyne Vice-Chair  
Sen. Brady Brammer (video)  
Sen. Jen Plumb (video)  
Hon. Michael Edwards (video)  
Hon. Ryan Harris  
Mr. Stephen Studdert  
Ms. Georgia Thompson (video)  
Ms. Linda Dunn

**Excused:**

Rep. Grant Miller  
Rep. Jordan Teuscher

**Staff:**

Alex Peterson  
Aimee Thoman  
Joe McGivern  
Cynthia Cowles

**Guests / Public:**

Bud Powell

**1. Welcome.** Vice-Chair called the meeting to order. Public comment allowed, none was given. Mr. Bud Powell, Ex. Dir. of Utah Prosecutor Conduct Commission was present.

**2. Approval of Minutes.**

**Motion:** Ms. Thompson To approve the minutes of the public portion of the 7 October 2025 meeting.

**Second:** Mr. Studdert

**Vote:** Unanimous

**3. Director's Report.** Mr. Peterson reviewed the Director's Report, updating the Commission on AJDC / CJE<sup>i</sup> (x7), JPEC<sup>ii</sup> (x0), CCJJ<sup>iii</sup> (x1), UCCD<sup>iv</sup> (x0), AOC<sup>v</sup> (x0), and GRAMA<sup>vi</sup>/Press (3) monthly requests. Staff reported on October Judicial Ethics Conference, travel claims, and likely future conferences. Mr. Powell was introduced and welcomed. Staff provided an update on website changes.

**4. Budget.** Staff reported on the FY25 budget through September 30, 2025 with total expenditures of \$159,464. Prior year savings and legislative additions to budget resulted in a carry forward balance of \$350,000. The JCC spent 17.1% of available funds through 16% of current FY. Staff reported Mr. McGivern hiring to full-time, impact on budget from travel and special hearing, and potential for a legislative budget cut.

**5. Statistical Report.**

|                                                  |    |
|--------------------------------------------------|----|
| Number of complaints filed to date in FY26       | 65 |
| Number of cases pending before the Supreme Court | 0  |
| Number of cases under formal charges             | 4  |
| Number of cases under full investigation         | 8  |
| Number of cases under preliminary investigation  | 28 |

|                         |                            |          |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
|                         | Total number of open files | 40       |
| <b>Oldest Case</b>      |                            | 343 days |
| <b>Average Case age</b> |                            | 53 days  |

In FY26, zero (0) Public Actions and two (2) Dismissal with Warnings has been issued. Thirteen (13) reconsideration requests received to date.

It has been acknowledged that the greater public access to complaint forms via the online complaint portal starting in FY22 has resulted in a significant increased complaint case load with no similar increase in meritorious complaints submitted. Staff implemented a loading page for the online complaint portal to emphasize the correct way to file appeals.

**6. Closure of Meeting via roll call vote.**

- |                |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Motion:</b> | Ms. Ballantyne | To close the meeting to the public for the purpose of discussing: the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; or investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct; or pending or reasonably imminent litigation; or matters covered by attorney client privilege. |
| <b>Second:</b> | Hon. Harris    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Vote:</b>   | Unanimous      | By roll call                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

***At the conclusion of the confidential portion of the meeting, the meeting was re-opened to the public.***

- 7. Next Meeting and other matters.** The Commissioners agreed to conduct a public meeting on 2 December at the anchor location at 11:00 am. The Chair approved Commissioner electronic attendance.

**8. Adjournment.**

- |                |              |             |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>Motion:</b> | Ms. Hayman   | To adjourn. |
| <b>Second:</b> | Not required |             |
| <b>Vote:</b>   | Unanimous    |             |

---

<sup>i</sup> Association of Judicial Disciplinary Counsel / Center for Judicial Ethics  
<sup>ii</sup> Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission  
<sup>iii</sup> Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice  
<sup>iv</sup> Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy  
<sup>v</sup> Administrative Office of the Courts  
<sup>vi</sup> Government Records Access and Management Act