

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

**Tuesday, 6 January 2026 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 (video)  
Rep. Jordan Teuscher (video)  
Rep. Grant Miller  
Sen. Brady Brammer (video)  
Sen. Jen Plumb (video)  
Hon. Ryan Harris  
Hon. Michael Edwards (video)  
Mr. Stephen Studdert  
Ms. Georgia Thompson  
Ms. Linda Dunn (video)

**Excused:**

**Staff:**

Alex Peterson  
Cindi Cowles  
Joe McGivern

**Guests / Public:** None

**1. Welcome.** Chair called the meeting to order. Public comment allowed, none was given.

**2. Approval of Minutes.**

**Motion:** Mr. Studdert To approve the minutes of the public portion of the 2  
December 2025 meeting as corrected.

**Second:** Ms. Thompson

**Vote:** Unanimous

**3. Director's Report.** Mr. Peterson reviewed the Director's Report, updating the Commission on AJDC / CJE<sup>i</sup> (x2), JPEC<sup>ii</sup> (x0), CCJJ<sup>iii</sup> (x3), UCCD<sup>iv</sup> (x0), AOC<sup>v</sup> (x0), and GRAMA<sup>vi</sup>/Press (0) monthly requests. Staff reported on October Judicial Ethics Conference travel claims. Director provided an update on budget and work with legislative analyst to update JCC statute.

**4. Budget.** Staff reported on the FY26 budget through November 30, 2025 with total expenditures of \$203,688. Prior year savings and legislative additions to budget resulted in a carry forward balance of \$350,000. The JCC spent 21.8% of available funds through 45.5% of current FY.

**5. Statistical Report.**

Number of complaints filed to date in FY26	93
Number of cases pending before the Supreme Court	0
Number of cases under formal charges	4
Number of cases under full investigation	9
Number of cases under preliminary investigation	33

Total number of open files 46

**Oldest Case** 305 days  
**Average Case age** 72 days

In FY26, zero (0) Public Actions and two (2) Dismissal with Warnings have been issued. Fifteen (15) 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 significantly 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.**

**Motion:** Hon. Harris 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.

**Second:** Ms. Thompson

**Vote:** 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 10 March at the anchor location at 11:00 am. The Chair approved Commissioner electronic attendance.

**8. Adjournment.**

**Motion:** Ms. Hayman To adjourn.

**Second:** Not required

**Vote:** Unanimous

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<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