

Misc. Docket No. 02- 9078

**ORDER  
OF  
THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS**

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct has recommended that the Honorable Mary W. Hart, Municipal Court Judge, White Deer, Carson County, Texas, be suspended without pay pursuant to Texas Constitution Article 5, §1-a(6)A, and Rule 15(b) of the Procedural Rules for the Removal or Retirement of Judges, pending final disposition by the Commission of the charge pending against Respondent.

Having considered the Commission's Request for Order of Suspension of Judge and its exhibits, it is the Order of the Supreme Court of Texas that the Honorable Mary W. Hart, Municipal Court Judge, White Deer, Carson County, Texas, be immediately suspended from office without pay pursuant to Texas Constitution Article 5, §1-a(6), pending final disposition by the Commission of the charge pending against Respondent.

As ordered by the Supreme Court of Texas, in chambers,

With the Seal thereof affixed at the  
City of Austin

This 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2002.

  
JOHN T. ADAMS, CLERK  
SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS





















In order for us to complete the investigation into this matter, we ask that you respond to the questions contained in item QJ-1 attached hereto. Please write or type your answers in the space provided below each question. If you need more space, please feel free to attach additional pages. After responding to the questions, please feel free to submit any comment, explanation, or justification you believe appropriate. Additionally, please personally sign, date and verify your answer before a notary public.

We do appreciate your helping us to carry out our responsibilities and request your written response by **Friday, March 29, 2002**. If you have any questions or if we may be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact Lisa Mogil, the staff attorney assigned to this matter, at (877) 228-5750 (toll free).

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Commission may vote to dismiss the matter, issue a private or public sanction against you, order that you obtain additional education, or initiate formal proceedings in order to recommend your removal and/or suspension from office. In some situations, the Commission may postpone its decision in order to obtain additional testimony or other evidence.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Seana Willing  
General Counsel

SW/LM/et  
Encl.

EXHIBIT B

AFFIDAVIT OF HOPE LOCHRIDGE

STATE OF TEXAS §  
                                          §  
COUNTY OF TRAVIS §

BEFORE ME, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Hope Lochridge and upon her oath duly sworn testified as follows:

"I am over the age of 18, have never been convicted of a felony and have personal knowledge of all facts stated herein.

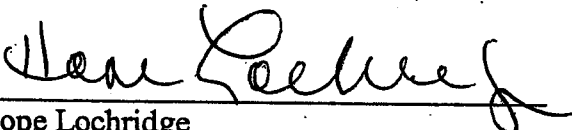
I am the Executive Director for the Texas Municipal Courts Education Center. As part of my duties, I ensure judges' compliance with judicial education requirements under the Rules of Judicial Education promulgated by the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas, a copy of which is incorporated by reference and made a part of this affidavit.

Judge Mary W. Hart, Municipal Court Judge of White Deer, Carson County, Texas, is not in compliance with Rule 4a(2) of the Rules of Judicial Education for fiscal year 2001.

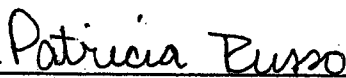
Judge Hart completed 0 hours out of the 12 required hours of education for fiscal year 2001.

Judge Hart was not granted a waiver or other permission to relieve her of her educational requirements for fiscal year 2001."

FURTHER AFFLIANT SAYETH NOT.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hope Lochridge  
Executive Director, Texas Municipal Courts Education Center.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME, on this the 11th day of March, 2002.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, State of Texas

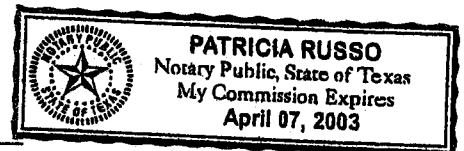


EXHIBIT B

ATTACHMENT  
A

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**QJ-1**  
**CJC No. 02-0344-MU**  
**LETTER OF INQUIRY: JUDGE MARY W. HART**

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1. Please state the dates of your judicial service and the bench or benches that you serve. If you are no longer sitting as a judge, please provide the date you ceased acting as a judge.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Did you attend the required judicial education for fiscal year 2001?
  - a. If not, please explain.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. If so, please state the location of the school, course names, and the dates you attended.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Were you granted a waiver of the required judicial education for fiscal year 2001 by the applicable education committee?

EXHIBIT   **B**

4. Please provide any other relevant information regarding your attendance at judicial education seminars during fiscal year 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Judge's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name)

**VERIFICATION  
CJC No. 02-0344-MU**

State of Texas

§  
§  
§

County of \_\_\_\_\_

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, who by me being first duly sworn, on his oath deposed and said that the above responses to the Commission's inquiries are based on personal knowledge, and are true and correct.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, on this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2002.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC, IN AND FOR THE STATE  
OF TEXAS

EXHIBIT B



**BEFORE THE  
STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

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**Inquiry Concerning  
CJC No. 02-0344-MU**

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**COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION OF SUSPENSION**

On the 10th day of April, 2002, came on to be heard the Sworn Complaint of Hope Lochridge requesting that the State Commission on Judicial Conduct ("Commission") recommend the immediate suspension of Judge Mary W. Hart, Municipal Court Judge, White Deer, Carson County, Texas ("Respondent").

After considering the Sworn Complaint, Respondent's written response to the Commission, and the argument of counsel, the Commission concluded that Respondent has engaged in willful and persistent conduct that is clearly inconsistent with the proper performance of her duties and which casts public discredit on the judiciary and on the administration of justice in violation of Article 5, §1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution.

**WHEREFORE**, pursuant to Article 5, §1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution and Rule 15(b) of the Procedural Rules for the Removal or Retirement of Judges, the Commission recommends that the Texas Supreme Court order the immediate suspension, without pay, of Judge Mary W. Hart from her office as Municipal Court Judge, White Deer, Carson County, Texas, pending final disposition by the Commission of the charge pending against Respondent.

**SIGNED:** April 19, 2002.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. O'Neal", written over a horizontal line.

Honorable Michael L. O'Neal, Chair  
State Commission on Judicial Conduct

**EXHIBIT C**