## Judicial Investigation Commission: How a typical Complaint is handled.

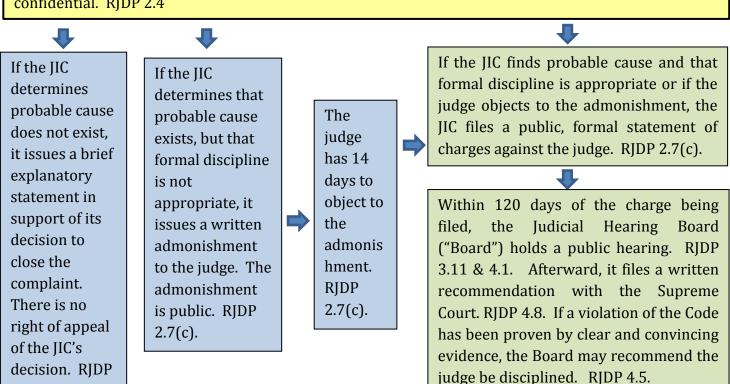
Any person who believes a judge violated the Code of Judicial Conduct (the "Code") may file a complaint with the Judicial Investigation Commission ("JIC"). The complaint must be in writing, verified and filed within two years of discovering the violation. *See* Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure ("RJDP") 2, 2.1 & 2.12.



The JIC's Office of Disciplinary Counsel ("Counsel") reviews the Complaint and distributes a copy to the JIC. If the Complaint alleges a violation of the Code, Counsel can send a copy to the judge and request a written response within ten days. RJDP 2.3. If warranted, an investigation will ensue in which Counsel or an investigator will interview witnesses and collect documentation. Counsel will also prepare a report for the JIC. The complaint and investigation are confidential. RJDP 2.4 & 2.6.



The judge's response to the Complaint and the confidential report, if any, will be distributed to the JIC for its consideration. During the JIC's deliberations, additional questions may arise that require further investigation. Once the JIC has the necessary information, it must decide whether there is probable cause to move forward on the complaint. RJDP 2.7(a). Commission meetings and deliberations are confidential. RJDP 2.4



The judge may object to the Board's recommendation. RJDP 4.9. If the judge objects, the Supreme Court allows the parties to file briefs and may hold oral arguments. RJDP 4.9 & 4.11.

2.7(b).



The Supreme Court disposes of the case. Discipline may include one or more of these sanctions: admonishment; reprimand; censure; suspension without pay for up to one year; and/or a fine of up to \$5,000. RJDP 4.12.