



**BEFORE THE
STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

**IN RE: HONORABLE GEORGE BARNSTONE
HARRIS COUNTY CIVIL COURT AT LAW NO. 1
HOUSTON, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS
CJC Nos. 19-0336, 19-0910, 19-1289, 19-1821, 20-0221 & 20-0924**

**VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT TO RESIGN FROM
JUDICIAL OFFICE IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

This Agreement is being entered into by the undersigned parties pursuant to Section 33.032(h) of the Texas Government Code.

WHEREAS at all times relevant hereto, the Honorable George Barnstone was the judge for Harris County Civil Court at Law No. 1, Houston, Harris County, Texas, and

WHEREAS the above-referenced complaints were filed with the State Commission on Judicial Conduct alleging that Judge Barnstone engaged in several acts of judicial misconduct, including: failing to treat attorneys appearing in his court with patience, dignity and courtesy; failing to require and maintain order and decorum in proceedings before him; exhibiting and/or manifesting a bias or prejudice towards certain litigants and attorneys, including on the basis of race, sex and/or socioeconomic status; failing to comply with the law and/or maintain professional competence in the law with respect to awards of attorney's fees and/or statutory post-judgment interest; failing to accord a defendant the right to be heard according to law; lending the prestige of judicial office to advance his private interests; and making appointments in violation of Chapter 573 of the Texas Government Code, and

WHEREAS no Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law have been made in connection with the above-referenced matters, and

WHEREAS the parties agree that the allegations of judicial misconduct, if found to be true, could result in disciplinary action against Judge Barnstone, up to and including removal from office, and

WHEREAS the parties to this Agreement are desirous of resolving the issues relating to these allegations without the time and expense of further disciplinary proceedings.

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED that Judge Barnstone, upon the signing of this Agreement, has officially and formally resigned his judicial duties, and is entering into this Agreement to resolve the above-referenced complaints in lieu of disciplinary action by the Commission, pursuant to Section 33.032(h) of the Texas Government Code. The

Commission agrees that it shall pursue no further disciplinary proceedings against Judge Barnstone in connection with the above-referenced matters.


IT IS FURTHER AGREED that, upon the Commission's approval of this Agreement, Judge Barnstone shall be forever disqualified from judicial service in the State of Texas, including (a) sitting or serving as a judge, (b) standing for election or appointment to a judicial office, and/or (c) performing or exercising any judicial duties or functions of a judicial officer or former judicial officer, including the performance of wedding ceremonies, except as otherwise permitted by law under Section 2.202(1)-(3) of the Texas Family Code.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that this Agreement shall be made public as a voluntary agreement to resign from judicial office, pursuant to Section 33.032(h) of the Texas Government Code, and the Commission may enforce this Agreement through any legal process necessary, including injunctive relief; that Travis County, Texas, shall be the proper venue for any dispute between the parties or proceeding relating to this Agreement; and that Judge Barnstone, individually, shall bear the expense, cost, and any reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees in the event any dispute arising under this Agreement is decided against him by any court or tribunal.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that Judge Barnstone, by his execution of this voluntary Agreement, does not admit guilt, fault, or liability regarding the matters contained in the complaints referenced above.

AGREED TO AND ACCEPTED upon its execution by the parties.

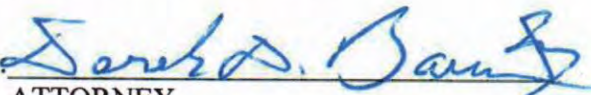

GEORGE BARNSTONE


HON. DAVID HALL, CHAIR
STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Date: 7-12-21

Date: 7-19-2021

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

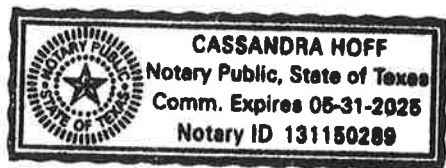
By: 
ATTORNEY
FOR GEORGE BARNSTONE

VERIFICATION

State of Texas §
County of Harris §

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared **George Barnstone** who by me being first duly sworn, on his oath deposed and said that the above “Voluntary Agreement to Resign from Judicial Office in Lieu of Disciplinary Action” is a true and correct recitation of the facts and accurately reflects his understanding of the terms and conditions of, and voluntary consent to enter into, such Agreement.

SWORN TO BEFORE ME, on this the 12 day of July, 2021.





NOTARY PUBLIC, IN AND FOR THE
STATE OF TEXAS