

## JUDICIAL REVIEW COUNCIL

**In re: Honorable Bruce L. Levin**

### FINDINGS

In accordance with Section 51-51l(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 51-51k (8) (m) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Judicial Review Council hereby publishes its findings in this matter.

### UNDERLYING PROCEEDINGS

On April 25, 1994, Ann A. Levin filed a complaint with the Judicial Review Council alleging that her ex-husband, the Honorable Bruce L. Levin, threatened to terminate the joint custody agreement in his own dissolution case "by his own hand."

Following investigation and a probable cause hearing held on September 21, 1994, and October 19, 1994, the Judicial Review Council found probable cause to believe that Judge Levin willfully used or attempted to use his position as a superior court judge to influence the actions and decisions of Ann A. Levin in divorce proceedings, and that said action constituted conduct in violation of Section 51-51i of the Connecticut General Statutes, and thereafter proceeded to a public hearing in accordance with Section 51-51l of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The Council filed the following charges against the respondent:

### CHARGES

1. Between May 1, 1993, and May 1, 1994, the Honorable Bruce L. Levin used or attempted to use his position as a superior court judge to influence the actions and decisions of his wife, Ann A. Levin, in divorce proceedings, which conduct resulted in the failure to observe high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary might be preserved in violation of Canon 1 of the Code of Judicial Conduct and Section 51-51i (a) (2) of the Connecticut General Statutes.
2. Between May 1, 1993, and May 1, 1994, the Honorable Bruce L. Levin used or attempted to use his position as a superior court judge to influence the actions and decisions of his wife, Ann A. Levin, in divorce proceedings, which conduct resulted in the failure to act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary in violation of Canon 2A of the Code of Judicial Conduct and Section 51-51i (a) (2) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The Judicial Review Council, pursuant to its statutory mandate, conducted a public hearing on July 19, 1995, and September 21, 1995, wherein Judge Levin appeared with counsel. Testimony was received and entered as of record appears.

In accordance with Section 51-51m (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the public hearing was attended by twelve members of the Judicial Review Council.

Based on a clear and convincing standard of proof, the Council reached the following Finding of Facts and Conclusion:

### FINDING OF FACTS:

1. Judge Levin is an active judge of the Connecticut Superior Court.

2. Between May 1, 1993, and May 1, 1994, Judge Levin, as a superior court judge, threatened to issue an order altering the custody status of his children.
3. This action of the judge was an improper use of his judicial office.
4. This action was wilful.

CONCLUSION:

1. CHARGE 1 - The Council found that this charge was proven and Judge Levin is found guilty of this charge.

The decision was rendered on a vote of seven guilty and five not guilty.

2. CHARGE 2 - The Council found that this charge was not proven, and Judge Levin is exonerated of this charge.

The decision was rendered on a vote of twelve to zero.

Dated this 21st day of September, 1995.

R. Bartley Halloran  
*Chairman*

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