Judicial Review Council

At a Glance

DENNIS J. O'CONNOR, ***Executive Director***
Established **– January 1, 1978**
Statutory authority **– Conn. Gen. Statutes §51-51k, et seq.**
Central office **- 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106**
Number of employees **- 1 full-time, 1 part-time**
Recurring operating expenses **- $116,767**

Mission

The mission of this agency is to help enforce high standards of judicial conduct on and off the bench in order to preserve the integrity of the court system and promote public confidence in the courts. It is recognized that judges, family support magistrates and worker's compensation commissioners must be free to exercise their discretion without fear of disciplinary proceedings. However, they also must be held accountable for misconduct.

Statutory Responsibility

To investigate and act upon complaints of judicial misconduct made against state judges, family support magistrates and workers' compensation commissioners.

Public Service

Any person can present a complaint to the Judicial Review Council by obtaining a complaint form from any Superior Court clerk's office, by writing or calling the Judicial Review Council office, or by downloading the complaint form on the Council's website (www.ct.gov/jrc). The complaint, which must be in writing, sworn to and signed, must state facts that substantiate the alleged misconduct by a judge, family support magistrate, or workers' compensation commissioner within the jurisdiction of the Council. Every complaint received is screened by staff to determine that the above requirements are met; every complaint is then circulated to Council members for investigation and discussion at a subsequent monthly Council meeting.

Improvements/Achievements 2015-2016

- Pending complaints at beginning of fiscal year - **34**
- Received **127** complaints;
- Considered **161** complaints (127 received combined with 34 pending at beginning of fiscal year);
- Dismissed **122** complaints after investigation as no factual basis (including 1 complaint which was withdrawn by Complainant and subsequently dismissed);
- Dismissed **22** complaints barred by statute of limitation;
- Pending complaints at end of fiscal year – **17**;
- No Probable Cause Hearings held;
- No Public Hearings held.