

**ANNUAL REPORT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE IN SOUTH CAROLINA  
2012 - 2013**

**COMPLAINTS PENDING & RECEIVED:**

Complaints Pending June 30, 2012	27	
Complaints Received July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013	<u>299</u>	
<b>Total Complaints Pending and Received</b>		<b><u>326</u></b>

**DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINTS:**

Dismissed:

By Disciplinary Counsel after initial review (no jurisdiction)	188	
By Disciplinary Counsel after investigation (lack of evidence)	21	
By Investigative Panel	73	
By Supreme Court	<u>0</u>	
<b>Total Dismissed</b>		<b><u>(282)</u></b>

Not Dismissed:

Referral to Another Agency	0	
Closed but not Dismissed	0	
Closed due to Death	0	
Deferred Disciplinary Agreement	0	
Letter of Caution	9	
Admonition	1	
Public Reprimand	6	
Suspension	0	
Removal from Office	<u>0</u>	
<b>Total Not Dismissed</b>		<b><u>(16)</u></b>
<b>Total Complaints Concluded</b>		<b><u>(298)</u></b>
<b>Total Complaints Pending as of June 30, 2013</b>		<b>28</b>

**JUDICIAL POSITION\*:**

Magistrate	93
Circuit Court	70
Family Court	64
Municipal Court	35
Probate Court	24
Master/Referee	11
Appellate Court	2
Judicial Candidate	0

\*These figures represent the number of complaints filed against each type of judge.

**SOURCE OF COMPLAINT:**

Litigant	85.95%
Family/Friend of Litigant	5.35%
Citizen (not involved in case)	1.67%
Disciplinary Counsel	1.00%
Family/Friend of Victim	1.00%
Another Judge	1.00%
Law Enforcement	1.00%
Self-Report	1.00%
Attorney	1.00%
Employee	<1.00%
Litigation Witness	<1.00%
Public Official/Agency	<1.00%

**CASE TYPE:**

Criminal	40.54%
Domestic	21.28%
General Civil	19.59%
Probate	8.11%
Not Case Related	4.05%
Post-Conviction Relief	2.70%
Debt Collection/Foreclosure	2.36%
Employment	<1.00%
Personal Injury	<1.00%
Real Estate	<1.00%

**ALLEGED MISCONDUCT:**

Fairness/Bias/Prejudice	76.47%
Temperament	7.35%
Diligence	5.51%
Disqualification/Recusal/Conflict	5.15%
Criminal Conduct	1.84%
Civility	1.84%
Political Activity/Campaign	<1.00%
Probate Conduct	<1.00%
Trust Account Conduct	<1.00%
Supervision/Employee Relations	<1.00%

## COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

### COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS:

Meetings of Investigative Panels	4
Formal Charges Filed	0
Disciplinary Hearings	0
Incapacity Proceedings	0
Meetings of Full Commission	1

### REQUESTS FOR DISMISSAL REVIEW:

Requests for Review by Complainant	2
Dismissal Affirmed	(2)
Case Remanded for Further Investigation	<u>(0)</u>
Dismissal Reviews Pending	0

### JUDGES BEING MONITORED:

New Monitor Files Opened	0
Judges Currently Monitored	1

## SUPREME COURT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### DISCIPLINARY ORDERS\*:

Dismissal	0
Letter of Caution	0
Admonition	1
Public Reprimand	2
Definite Suspension	0
Removal from Office	0
Transfer to Incapacity Inactive	0
Interim Suspension	0

\*These figures represent the number of orders issued by the Supreme Court, not complaints. Some orders concluded multiple complaints.

### COMPLAINTS REFERRED TO SUPREME COURT:

Complaints resolved	7
Pending as of June 30, 2013	0