

  
Joey D. Moya

IN THE SUPREME COURT  
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

No. S-1-SC-37346

IN THE MATTER OF HON. NELLIE SORIANO  
City of Anthony Municipal Court

INQUIRY CONCERNING HON. NELLIE SORIANO  
Inquiry Nos. 2016-081 and 2016-086

FILED UNDER SEAL  
PURSUANT TO 27-104(B) NMRA

PETITION TO ACCEPT STIPULATION  
IN LIGHT OF PERMANENT RESIGNATION  
FROM JUDICIAL OFFICE

JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION  
RANDALL D. ROYBAL  
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Albuquerque, NM 87125-7248  
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*Counsel for Petitioner*

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*Counsel for Respondent*

IN THE SUPREME COURT  
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

No. \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE MATTER OF HON. NELLIE SORIANO  
City of Anthony Municipal Court

INQUIRY CONCERNING HON. NELLIE SORIANO  
Inquiry Nos. 2016-081 and 2016-086

FILED UNDER SEAL  
PURSUANT TO 27-104(B) NMRA

PETITION TO ACCEPT STIPULATION  
IN LIGHT OF PERMANENT RESIGNATION  
FROM JUDICIAL OFFICE

The Judicial Standards Commission of the State of New Mexico ("Petitioner" or "Commission"), through the undersigned counsel, respectfully moves the Supreme Court for an order approving the attached *Stipulation in Light of Permanent Resignation from Judicial Office* ("Stipulation"), attached hereto as Exhibit 1, in which Respondent, Hon. Nellie Soriano, consents that the resignation she tendered as a municipal court judge to be effective on October 18, 2018, shall be permanent effective at 5:00 p.m. on the same day the Court enters its order granting this

*Petition.* In addition, the Commission requests the Court unseal the file in this matter, pursuant to Rule 27-104(B) NMRA.

1. Petitioner invokes its jurisdiction pursuant to Petitioner's power to recommend the discipline of judges, and the Supreme Court's power to discipline judges under N.M. Const. Article VI, Section 32; the Court's power of superintending control under N.M. Const. Article VI, Section 3; and, Rule 38 of the Judicial Standards Commission's Rules.

2. On October 18, 2018, Respondent Hon. Nellie Soriano submitted a letter of resignation to the Chief Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court.

3. Following a vote of the Commissioners, on October 25, 2018, the Commission entered into a *Stipulation in Light of Permanent Resignation from Judicial Office* with Respondent, which provides in pertinent part the following:

A. Respondent agrees that the resignation she tendered on October 18, 2018, shall be permanent effective at 5:00 p.m. on the day the Court enters its order granting this *Petition*.

B. Respondent shall never again hold, become a candidate for, run for, or stand for election to any New Mexico judicial office in the future.

C. Respondent shall never seek, accept appointment to, or serve *pro tempore* for any New Mexico judicial office in the future. New Mexico judicial office includes the posts of judge in municipal court, probate court, magistrate court, metropolitan court, district court, Court of Appeals, and justice of the Supreme Court. Respondent shall never again hold or exercise any judicial authority in the State of New Mexico, to include officiating at weddings.

4. Upon order from this Court, the attached *Stipulation* is specifically enforceable by the Commission before the Supreme Court.

5. It is in the best interests of justice and integrity of the New Mexico Judiciary that the Supreme Court grant this *Petition*.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests this Court issue an order granting the Commission's *Petition*, approving the *Stipulation in Light of Permanent Resignation from Judicial Office*, and unsealing the documents filed in the Supreme Court in this case pursuant to Rule 27-104(B) NMRA.

Respectfully submitted,

JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RANDALL D. ROYBAL  
*Executive Director & General Counsel*

DEBORAH L. BORIO  
*Senior Investigative Trial Counsel/Examiner*

Post Office Box 27248  
Albuquerque, NM 87125-7248  
Telephone: (505) 222-9353  
Facsimile: (505) 222-9358

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was filed and served via the Supreme Court's electronic File and Serve system, addressed to Steven S. Scholl, Esq., Counsel for Respondent, on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DEBORAH L. BORIO

BEFORE THE JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

**FILED**

OCT 25 2018

NM JUDICIAL

STANDARDS COMMISSION

INQUIRY CONCERNING HON. NELLIE SORIANO  
Anthony Municipal Court

Inquiry Nos. 2016-081 and 2016-086

**STIPULATION IN LIGHT OF PERMANENT RESIGNATION  
FROM JUDICIAL OFFICE**

THESE MATTERS are currently pending before the Judicial Standards Commission ("the Commission") pursuant to the *Notice of Preliminary Investigation* issued on December 19, 2016, (attached hereto as **Exhibit A**); Hon. Nellie Soriano's ("Respondent") *Response to the Notice of Preliminary Investigation* fax filed on February 3, 2017, (attached hereto as **Exhibit B-1**); Respondent's additional *Response to the Notice of Preliminary Investigation* received via U.S. mail on February 10, 2017, which was substantially similar, (attached hereto as **Exhibit B-2**); a *Consent Decree* entered into by the Commission and Respondent on May 31, 2017, (attached hereto as **Exhibit C**); a *Notice of Formal Proceedings* issued on March 21, 2018, (attached hereto as **Exhibit D**); Respondent's partial *Response to the Notice of Formal Proceedings* received on April 26, 2018 (attached hereto as **Exhibit E-1**); Respondent's verified *Response to the Notice of Formal Proceedings* fax filed on May 29, 2018, (attached hereto as **Exhibit E-2**); and, Respondent's Letter of Resignation dated October 18, 2018, (attached hereto as **Exhibit F**).

This *Stipulation in Light of Permanent Resignation from Judicial Office* ("Stipulation") is entered into by and between the Commission and Respondent. Respondent is represented by Steven S. Scholl, Esq. The parties hereby agree and stipulate as follows:

1. In a letter to Chief Justice Judith K. Nakamura, New Mexico Supreme Court, Respondent resigned from her position as Municipal Judge, City of Anthony, to be effective at

the close of business on October 18, 2018. Respondent subsequently provided copies of her letter of resignation to the City of Anthony Mayor and Board of Trustees, and to the Judicial Standards Commission.

2. The Commission has jurisdiction over the Respondent and the above-captioned and numbered matters pursuant to Article VI, Section 32 of the Constitution of the State of New Mexico; NMSA 1978 Sections 34-10-1 through 34-10-4, as amended; and, the Judicial Standards Commission Rules.

3. Respondent was afforded the opportunity and agreed to participate in an informal mentorship; however, eight months into the mentorship, the Commission determined the remedial goals of the mentorship were not being achieved.

4. Respondent expressly denies the allegations in the *Notice of Preliminary Investigation* and the charges in the *Notice of Formal Proceedings* issued by the Commission and denies violating any rules applicable to her as a Judge, to include the New Mexico Code of Judicial Conduct.

5. Respondent agrees that the resignation she tendered as the Municipal Judge of the City of Anthony to be effective on October 18, 2018, shall be permanent effective at 5:00 p.m. on the same day the Supreme Court enters an order approving this *Stipulation*.

6. Upon acceptance of this *Stipulation* by the New Mexico Supreme Court, Respondent shall never again hold, become a candidate for, run for, or stand for election to any New Mexico judicial office in the future. Respondent shall never seek, accept appointment to, or serve *pro tempore* for any New Mexico judicial office in the future. New Mexico judicial office includes the posts of judge in municipal court, probate court, magistrate court, metropolitan court, district court, Court of Appeals, and Justice of the Supreme Court. Respondent shall

never again hold or exercise any judicial authority in the State of New Mexico, to include officiating at weddings.

7. The Commission will file under seal with the New Mexico Supreme Court pursuant to Rule 27-104(B) NMRA 2011, a *Petition to Accept Stipulation in Light of Permanent Resignation from Judicial Office* ("*Petition*"), attaching a copy of: this *Stipulation*, the *Notice of Preliminary Investigation* and *Notice of Formal Proceedings* issued in Inquiry Nos. 2016-081 and 2016-086; Respondent's responses to the respective *Notices* issued in Inquiry Nos. 2016-081 and 2016-086; the *Consent Decree*; and, Respondent's Letter of Resignation to the Chief Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court.

8. Upon granting the *Petition*, and pursuant to Rule 27-104(B) NMRA, the Supreme Court file in these matters shall be unsealed.

9. Upon execution of this *Stipulation* and acceptance by the Supreme Court, the Commission will abate the proceedings and close all pending matters before the Commission (Inquiry Nos. 2016-081 and 2016-086).

10. Respondent acknowledges that upon execution of this *Stipulation*, Respondent gives up any and all motions, defenses, objections or requests that Respondent has made or raised, or could assert hereafter in or concerning the Judicial Standards Commission proceedings.

11. This *Stipulation* is specifically enforceable by the Commission before the Supreme Court.

12. This *Stipulation* is not enforceable unless fully executed by all parties.

13. The Commission and Respondent shall take all actions necessary to carry out and fulfill the terms and conditions of this *Stipulation*.



14. Respondent shall not make any misrepresentations to the media concerning these Inquiries, the facts and circumstances of Respondent's stipulation, or the Commission's proceedings.

15. Non-Compliance and Breach. If Respondent violates any terms or provisions of this executed *Stipulation*, Respondent agrees that all facts alleged in both the *Notice of Preliminary Investigation* and *Notice of Formal Proceedings* issued in Inquiry Nos. 2016-081 and 2016-084, and which were not admitted to in this *Stipulation*, shall be deemed admitted by Respondent, will be used against Respondent in future proceedings before the Commission and the Supreme Court, and shall constitute obstruction of Commission business and contempt.

16. The terms and conditions contained in this *Stipulation* are mutually acceptable to and agreed upon by all parties.

17. All parties have read and understand this *Stipulation*, have had the opportunity to discuss it with and be advised by legal counsel, and hereby freely and voluntarily enter into this *Stipulation* free of any threats, and free of any promises not contained herein.

18. The parties agree to bear their own costs and fees.

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RESPONDENT'S REVIEW & APPROVAL

I have read and understand this *Stipulation in Light of Permanent Resignation from Judicial Office* and reviewed it with my attorney. I have discussed this case with my attorney and have been advised by my attorney of the allegations, all applicable constitutional rights, possible defenses and probable outcomes. I understand and agree that my attorney is speaking for me and on my behalf in this proceeding, and that anything my attorney says or does in this proceeding can and should be attributable to me. In the event my attorney says or does anything during the course of this proceeding that I do not agree with, I know, understand and agree that I have an affirmative duty to make my disagreement with my attorney's words or conduct known. If I do not make my disagreement known, then I know, understand, and agree that I am accepting my attorney's words and conduct in this proceeding as my own.

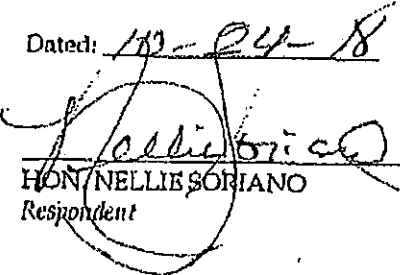
I know, understand and agree that the provisions of this *Stipulation* are material to the Commission's deliberations and ultimate acceptance of it. I also understand and agree that by entering into this *Stipulation*, I am agreeing to never again hold judicial office or exercise judicial authority as defined in this agreement under any circumstances, and that if I do hold any judicial office or exercise judicial authority at any point in the future, I will be in violation of this *Stipulation* and I could be held in contempt of the Judicial Standards Commission and the New Mexico Supreme Court.

I further understand that if I violate any provision of this *Stipulation* in any other manner, I agree, acknowledge, and accept that all allegations and charges lodged against me in this matter are admitted by me as fact, and that the Commission shall reinstate all matters pending before the Supreme Court and/or the Commission at the time this *Stipulation* was executed.

I acknowledge that the enumerated facts and conduct, if proven, constitute willful misconduct in office, one or more violations of the New Mexico Code of Judicial Conduct, and provide sufficient basis for the New Mexico Supreme Court to impose discipline against me pursuant to Article VI, Section 32 of the New Mexico Constitution.

I agree to the terms of this *Stipulation* following my permanent resignation from judicial office.

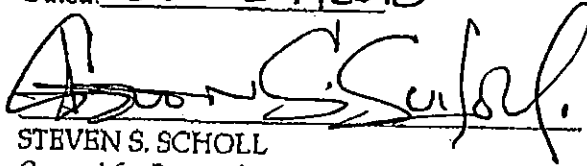
Dated: 10-24-18

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
HON. NELLIE SORIANO  
Respondent

DEFENSE COUNSEL REVIEW & APPROVAL

I have reviewed the *Stipulation in Light of Permanent Resignation from Judicial Office* with my client. I have discussed this case with my client and I have advised my client of all applicable constitutional rights, possible defenses and probable outcomes, and hereby approve my client's entry into this *Stipulation*.

Dated: OCT 24, 2018

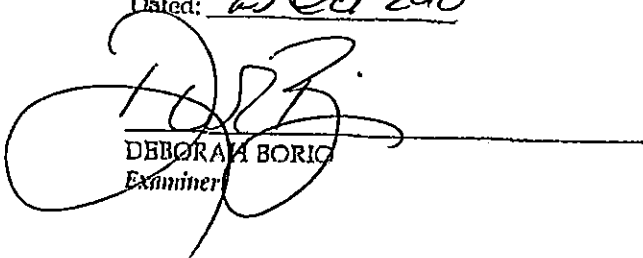


STEVEN S. SCHOLL  
*Counsel for Respondent*

EXAMINER'S REVIEW & APPROVAL

I have reviewed this *Stipulation in Light of Permanent Resignation from Judicial Office* and find that it is appropriate and consistent with the best interests of justice. I hereby recommend that the Judicial Standards Commission accept, approve, and enter into this *Stipulation*.

Dated: 25 Oct 2018

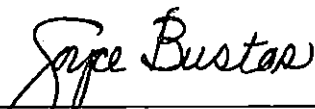


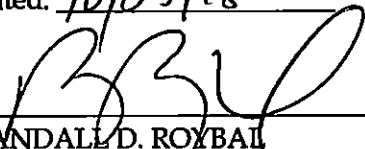
DEBORAH BORIO  
*Examiner*

**JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION REVIEW & APPROVAL**

The Commission has reviewed this *Stipulation in Light of Permanent Resignation from Judicial Office* and finds that it is in the best interests of justice and hereby accepts, approves, and enters into this *Stipulation*.

Dated: 10/25/18

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOYCE BUSTOS  
Chair


Dated: 10/25/18  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RANDALL D. ROYBAL  
Executive Director & General Counsel

BEFORE THE JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

INQUIRY CONCERNING HON. NELLIE SORIANO  
Anthony Municipal Court

Inquiry Nos. 2016-081 and 2016-086

**FILED**  
MAR 21 2018  
NM JUDICIAL  
STANDARDS COMMISSION



NOTICE OF FORMAL PROCEEDINGS

Hon. Nellie Soriano  
Anthony Municipal Court  
P.O. Box 2525  
Anthony, NM 88021

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Judicial Standards Commission, in accordance with its jurisdiction under Article VI, Section 32 of the New Mexico Constitution and pursuant to Rule 15 NMRA 2010 of the Judicial Standards Commission Rules, has instituted formal proceedings on the allegations set forth below.

COUNT 1

On or about July 22, 2016, you abused the prestige of judicial office and failed to be patient, dignified, and courteous by threatening City of Anthony Public Works Director Eleazar Roman with being held in contempt and/or threatened him with being arrested when there were no proceedings involving him pending before you and you were not on the bench, but only having a discussion with him outside the courtroom.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-103, 21-205(A), and 21-208(B) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

COUNT 2

On or about April 28, 2016, you abused the prestige of judicial office and failed to be patient, dignified, and courteous when you telephoned City of Anthony Library Director Mary

Hall and proceeded to yell, curse and use offensive and foul language toward her, and threatened to have her fired because you did not agree with City of Anthony Library Ordinance No. 2013-04 concerning library procedures.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-103, 21-205(A), and 21-208(B) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

### COUNT 3

Since on or about March 1, 2016, following Board of Trustees/City Council meetings that you attended, and in which citizens had complained about code violations that were likely to come before your court, you created an appearance of impropriety by meeting with the citizens and announcing your position on the violations.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-202, 21-205(A), 21-210(A) and (B), and 21-301 NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

### COUNT 4

Since on or about March 1, 2016, you informed some citizens of Anthony that you did not agree with and would not enforce the City's Library Ordinance. Your pronouncement was posted on social media by others.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-103, 21-202, 21-205(A), and 21-210 (A) and (B) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

### COUNT 5

Since on or about March 1, 2016, you failed or refused to respect and comply with the law, specifically the City of Anthony Library Ordinance No. 2013-04, by dismissing pending library cases for no apparent reason and/or allowing the time limit to expire on pending cases so you could dismiss them, and making statements to the effect of "Dismiss all those complaints" and "I'm going to let the six-month rule run on the others."

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-202, 21-205(A), 21-206(A), and 21-207 NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

COUNT 6

Since on or about March 1, 2016 you abused the prestige of your judicial office by making statements to the effect that you can do as you please and get what you want, claiming it was so because "I'm the judge," or words to that effect.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, and 21-103 NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

COUNT 7

Since on or about March 1, 2016 you abused the prestige of your judicial office and created the appearance of impropriety by calling upon certain members of the City's Board of Trustees to use their influence in getting your demands for yourself and your court's resources met.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-103, and 21-204(B), and 21-302 NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

COUNT 8

On or about July 25, 2016, in the case of *City of Anthony v. Craig Hudgens*, OR160047, you did not respect and comply with the law, specifically the City of Anthony Weeds and Rubbish Ordinance No. 2010-014, when, after adjudging Mr. Hudgens guilty, you failed to impose any penalty as mandated by the ordinance and allowed him to pay only court costs.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, and 21-205(A) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

### COUNT 9

On or about July 25, 2016, in the case of *City of Anthony v. Craig Hudgens*, you were not fair or impartial, or created the appearance thereof, when you stated in open court that you were going to allow Mr. Hudgens to just pay the court costs, otherwise the code enforcer would just keep “bugging” him.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-103, 21-202, 21-205(A), 21-206(A), and 21-207 NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

### COUNT 10

Since on or about March 1, 2016, you have changed penalty assessment traffic citations to hearings, which is contrary to law.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-202, and 21-205(A), and 21-206(A) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

### COUNT 11

On or about June 27, 2016, you initiated impermissible *ex parte* communications with your neighbor, Ashley Garcia, who had cases pending before you, by personally contacting her and informing her that she had a warrant or would have a warrant if she failed to appear in court and, further, you failed to make provision to promptly notify the other party of the substance of your conversation and give the other party an opportunity to respond.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-202, 21-205(A), 21-206(A), and 21-209(A) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

### COUNT 12

On or after about June 27, 2016, after you had *ex parte* communications with the Defendant, you failed to recuse from the cases of *City of Anthony v. Ashley Garcia*, OR160006 and



OR160007 and, further, created the appearance of impropriety when you stated that you informed the Defendant of her warrant because she was your neighbor.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-202, 21-205(A), and 21-211(A) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

#### COUNT 13

On or about July 6, 2016, you initiated impermissible *ex parte* communications with Aurora Avila, who had cases pending before you and who was a relative of your neighbor, by personally contacting her and informing her that she had a warrant or would have a warrant if she failed to appear in court and, further, you failed to make provision to promptly notify the other party of the substance of your conversation and give the other party an opportunity to respond.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-202, 21-205(A), 21-206(A), and 21-209(A) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

#### COUNT 14

On or after about July 6, 2016, after you had *ex parte* communications with the Defendant, you failed to recuse from the cases of *City of Anthony v. Aurora Avila*, TR160521 and TR160522, and, further, created the appearance of impropriety when you stated that you informed the Defendant of her warrant because she was a relative of your neighbor.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-202, 21-205(A), and 21-211(A) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

#### COUNT 15

On or about April 18, 2016, June 20, 2016, and June 28, 2016 in the case of *City of Anthony v. Craig Hudgens*, OR160047, you failed to afford due process to one of the parties when you granted *ex parte* requests from the Defendant for continuances without notice to or an opportunity to be heard from the prosecuting officer.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-202, 21-205(A), and 21-206(A) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

**COUNT 16**

On or about May 12, 2016 and June 9, 2016 in the cases of *City of Anthony v. Ashley Garcia*, OR160006 and OR160007, you failed to afford due process to one of the parties when you granted *ex parte* requests from the Defendant for continuances without notice to or an opportunity to be heard from the prosecuting officer.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-202, 21-205(A), and 21-206(A) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

**COUNT 17**

Between on or about July 14, 2016 and September 26, 2016, you abused the prestige of your judicial office by attempting to get special treatment for travel and *per diem* reimbursements, even after being told your requests were not in compliance with statutory requirements.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-103, 21-202, 21-204(B), 21-205(A), and 21-208(B) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

**COUNT 18**

Since on or about July 1, 2016, you refused to sign the *per diem* paperwork for your court staff to attend out-of-town training because you disagreed with the manner in which the City made the financial reimbursements.

Such conduct violates Rules 21-101, 21-102, 21-103, and 21-205(A) NMRA 2012, and constitutes willful misconduct in office.

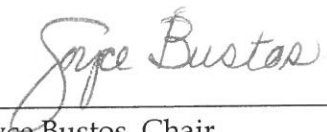
PLEASE BE ADVISED that in accordance with Rule 16 of the Judicial Standards Commission Rules, you shall file a written answer to this notice within twenty-one (21) days of its service upon you. Your answer shall be filed with:

Judicial Standards Commission  
P.O. Box 27248  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-7248

Your answer should be legible and your signature must be verified.

Article VI, Section 32 of the New Mexico Constitution provides that all papers filed with and proceedings before the Judicial Standards Commission are confidential, except that any record filed by the Commission in the New Mexico Supreme Court continues privileged but, upon its filing, loses its confidential character, and a writing which was privileged prior to filing with the Commission or its masters does not lose its privilege by the filing.

JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

By:   
Joyce Bustos, Chair  
Post Office Box 27248  
Albuquerque, NM 87125-7248

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing was mailed via certified U.S. mail, return receipt requested, on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2018, to the following:

*Hon. Nellie Soriano  
Anthony Municipal Court  
P.O. Box 2525  
Anthony, NM 88021*

  
SHARIESSE T. MCCANNON  
Clerk of the Commission

  
Joey D. Moya

1                   **IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

2   **December 3, 2018**

3                   **NO. S-1-SC-37346**

4                   **INQUIRY CONCERNING A JUDGE**  
5                   **NOS. 2016-081 and 2016-086**

6  
7                   **IN THE MATTER OF HON. NELLIE SORIANO**  
8                   **Anthony Municipal Court Judge**

9   **ORDER**

10                   WHEREAS, this matter came on for consideration by the Court upon the  
11                   Judicial Standards Commission's petition to accept stipulation to permanent  
12                   resignation from judicial office in lieu of further disciplinary proceedings, and the  
13                   Court having considered the petition, having determined that acceptance of the  
14                   stipulation is in the best interests of the judiciary and the public, and being  
15                   sufficiently advised; Chief Justice Judith K. Nakamura, Justice Petra Jimenez  
16                   Maes, Justice Charles W. Daniels, Justice Barbara J. Vigil, and Justice Gary L.  
17                   Clingman concurring;

18                   NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the petition to accept  
19                   stipulation to permanent resignation from judicial office in lieu of further  
20                   disciplinary proceedings is GRANTED, and the stipulation to permanent  
21                   resignation from judicial office in lieu of further disciplinary proceedings is  
22                   APPROVED;

23                   IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the permanent resignation of respondent,  
24                   Municipal Court Judge Nellie Soriano, shall be effective at 5:00 p.m. on December

1 3, 2018;

2 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall never again hold,  
3 become a candidate for, run for, or stand for election to any New Mexico judicial  
4 office in the future;

5 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall never seek, accept  
6 appointment to, or serve pro tempore for any New Mexico judicial office in the  
7 future, which includes the posts of judge in municipal court, probate court,  
8 magistrate court, metropolitan court, district court, Court of Appeals, and Justice of  
9 the Supreme Court;

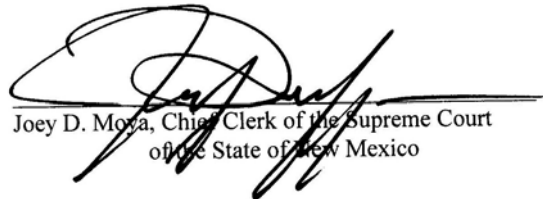
10 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall never again hold or  
11 exercise any judicial authority in the State of New Mexico, to include officiating at  
12 weddings; and

13 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all documents filed in this Court in  
14 Inquiry Nos. 2016-081 and 2016-086 are UNSEALED pursuant to Rule 27-  
15 104(B) NMRA.

16 IT IS SO ORDERED.



WITNESS, the Honorable Judith K. Nakamura,  
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of  
New Mexico, and the seal of said Court this 3rd day  
of December, 2018.



Joey D. Moya, Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court  
of the State of New Mexico

17 I CERTIFY AND ATTEST:  
A true copy was served on all parties  
or their counsel of record on date filed.

Joey D. Moya  
Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court  
of the State of New Mexico