

2010 IL Cts Com 001

(No. 09 CC 2. - Respondent reprimanded.)

In re ASSOCIATE JUDGE ALBERT L. PURHAM, JR.
of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, Respondent

Order entered September 14, 2010

SYLLABUS

On December 4, 2009, the Judicial Inquiry Board filed a complaint with the Courts Commission, charging respondent with conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice and conduct that brings the judicial office into disrepute in violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct, Illinois Supreme Court Rules 61 and 62. In summary form, the complaint alleged that on June 27, 2009, respondent was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, to which he later pled guilty.

Held: Respondent reprimanded.

Sidley Austin LLP, of Chicago, for Judicial Inquiry Board.
Collins, Bargione & Vuckovich, of Chicago, for respondent.

Before the COURTS COMMISSION: KILBRIDE, Chairman, FRANKLAND, SCHOSTOK, McBRIDE, WARD and ZIMMERMAN, commissioners. ALL CONCUR. WOLFF, commissioner, did not participate in the final disposition of this matter.

ORDER

In a complaint filed on December 4, 2009, the Judicial Inquiry Board charged respondent, ALBERT L. PURHAM, JR., a Judge of the Circuit Court of Peoria County, with “conduct that was prejudicial to the administration of justice and conduct that brought the judicial office into disrepute” in violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct, Illinois Supreme Court Rules 61 and 62(a). In support of the charge, the complaint stated that on June 27, 2009, respondent drove a car while under the influence of alcohol.

On September 1, 2010, the parties’ filed a Stipulation and Joint Recommendation and respondent stipulated to and admitted the allegation of fact and each of the alleged violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct as stated in the complaint. Based upon respondent’s stipulation, the parties tendered a joint recommendation that the Illinois Courts Commission discipline respondent with a reprimand. Respondent also filed a document in support of the recommendation, namely, “Judge Purham’s Submission in Mitigation”, noting respondent completed risk education classes and attended a victim impact panel. It was further noted that respondent has never had any disciplinary action imposed by any jurisdiction relating to the conduct at issue.

Having considered the parties’ Stipulation and Joint Recommendation, along with respondent’s supporting document, the Illinois Courts Commission being fully advised in the premises;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Stipulation and Joint Recommendation filed in this cause is adopted. It is further ordered that respondent is reprimanded.

Respondent reprimanded.