

(No. 07 CC 1 – Respondent reprimanded)

In re ASSOCIATE JUDGE STEVEN L. NORDQUIST
of the Circuit Court of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit, Respondent.

Order entered August 9, 2007

SYLLABUS

On January 22, 2007, the Judicial Inquiry Board filed a complaint with the Courts Commission, charging respondent with conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice and 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 30, 2006, respondent was stopped in his car for driving in excess of the posted speed limit. During the traffic stop, the officer detected alcohol on respondent's breath and observed that his eyes were bloodshot and glassy. The complaint further alleged that a breath sample disclosed respondent's breath alcohol concentration of .116. As a result, respondent was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, to which he subsequently pled guilty.

Held: Respondent reprimanded.

Sidley Austin LLP, of Chicago, for the Judicial Inquiry Board.
Streenan & Cain, P.C., of Rockford, for respondent.

Before the COURTS COMMISSION, FITZGERALD, Chairperson, BYRNE, FRANKS, GRAWEY, TOOMIN, and WOLFF, Commissioners. ALL CONCUR. STANTON MCBRIDE, commissioner, did not participate in the final disposition of this matter.

ORDER

This cause coming to be heard on the parties' Stipulation and Joint Recommendation, which was filed in this matter on August 9, 2007, and respondent, having stipulated to and admitted to each of the allegations of fact and each of the alleged violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct as stated in the complaint and having further agreed that he entered into the recommendation freely and voluntarily and with full knowledge of the allegations contained in the complaint;

and 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 are adopted. It is further ordered that respondent is reprimanded.

Respondent reprimanded.