

(No. 98 CC 2 – Respondent suspended)

In re CIRCUIT JUDGE JOHN R. GOSHGARIAN
of the Circuit Court of Lake County, Respondent

Order entered November 18, 1999

SYLLABUS

On June 23, 1998, 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, 62 and 63. In summary form, the complaint alleged that, on September 18, 1997, respondent, who had presided over a criminal trial, berated one of the jurors, who worked in the courthouse building where the trial was conducted, for returning a not guilty verdict on one of the charges against the defendant. The complaint also alleged that, in October 1997, respondent raised his voice and directed profane comments in open court to an Assistant State's Attorney, who did not object to a continuance requested by opposing counsel. The complaint further alleged that, in 1996, respondent intimidated and retaliated against a court reporter for signing a petition, which expressed concern to the chief judge that respondent disregarded the ordinary selection process in selecting his permanent courtroom court reporter. As a final matter, the complaint alleged that, on at least five occasions between in or about 1995 and 1997, respondent used profanity in referring to and describing other members of the judiciary.

Held: Respondent suspended.

McDermott, Will & Emery, of Chicago, for Judicial Inquiry Board.
William J. Harte, Ltd., of Chicago, for respondent.

Before the COURTS COMMISSION: McMORROW, Chairperson, HOURIHANE, LAWRENCE, RAKOWSKI, and RARICK, commissioners, CONCURRING; WOLFF, commissioner, DISSENTING.

ORDER

This cause coming to be heard on the parties' Joint Stipulation and Recommendation and the Illinois Courts Commission being fully advised in the premises;

It is hereby ordered that the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation is adopted. The respondent is therefore suspended from office for three months without compensation.

Respondent suspended.

WOLFF, dissenting:

I dissent from the above order.