

>> ORDER IN THE COURT.
THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA IS
NOW IN SESSION.
JUSTICE CANNADY PRESIDING.
>> THE COURT WILL NOW TAKE UP A
JUDICIAL REPRIMAND ARISING FROM
AN INQUIRY CONCERNING CIRCUIT
JUDGE RICHARD HOWARD.
YOU WERE CALLED BEFORE THE COURT
TODAY BECAUSE OF MISCONDUCT IN
YOUR OFFICIAL ROLE AS A JUDGE.
THIS IS AN UNFORTUNATE DAY FOR
YOU, FOR US IN THE ENTIRE STATE
JUDICIARY.
THE MISCONDUCT DAMAGED THE
PUBLIC'S TRUSTING CONFIDENCE IN
STATE COURTS.
THAT IS WHY THIS IS A SERIOUS
MATTER.
IT TRUSTS AND CONFIDENCE ON THE
PEOPLE CONFERRED ON THE JUDGES.
IN A REPRIMAND SUCH AS THIS IT
IS AN IMPORTANT WAY TO ASSURE
THE PUBLIC, AND JUDGE HOWARD,
YOUR CASE ARISES FROM A SERIES
OF EVENTS THAT BEGAN IN EARLY
APRIL OF 2019, NO STIPULATION IN
THE RECORD HERE, YOU ATTEMPTED
TO DISSUADE A CANDIDATE FOR
JUDICIAL OFFICE RUNNING AGAINST
AN INCUMBENT JUDGE.
YOU RECOMMENDED INSTEAD THE
CANDIDATE RUN AGAINST A
DIFFERENT INCUMBENT JUDGE, A
SEPARATE JUDICIAL NOMINATING
PROCESS.
JAKARTA FAILED TO UPHOLD THE
INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY
AND VIOLATION, AND FAILED TO
PROMOTE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE
IMPARTIALITY, IT CONSTITUTED AN
IMPROPER USE OF THE PRESTIGE OF
THE GENERAL OFFICE.
IN VIEW OF THE PRIVATE ENTRANCE
OF ANOTHER CONTRARY TO CANON 2
BE.
AND ADMITTING YOUR CONDUCT WAS
WRONG.
YOU COOPERATED WITH JAKE YOU SEE
THE ROUTE OF THE PROCESS OF THE
INVESTIGATION WAS ALSO NOTE YOU
HAD NO PRIOR DISCIPLINE IS A
JUDGE SINCE YOUR APPOINTMENT IN

2000 AND NO DISCIPLINARY HISTORY
WITH FLORIDA BAR.
JUDGE HOWARD, YOU ARE HEREBY
PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED.
WE TRUST THAT IN THE FUTURE YOU
WILL FOLLOW THE OBLIGATIONS
IMPOSED ON YOU BY THE CODE.
AS EARLIER CASE LAW ESTABLISHES,
ANY FUTURE MISCONDUCT WILL BE
VIEWED MORE HARSHLY.
THANK YOU AND THAT CONCLUDES
THIS JUDICIAL REPRIMAND.
THE NEXT AND FINAL CASE ON
TODAY'S DOCKET.