

>> ALL RISE. HERE YE HERE YE HERE YE. THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA IS NOW IN SESSION. LET ALL THAT HAVE CAUSE TO PLEE, DRAW NEAR, GIVE ATTENTION YOU WILL BE HEARD. GOD SAVE THESE UNITED STATES, THE GREAT STATE OF FLORIDA, AND THIS HONORABLE COURT. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE FLORIDA SUPREME COURT. PLEASE BE SEATED.

>> GOOD MORNING WELCOME TO THE FLORIDA SUPREME COURT. WE WILL START WITH THE PUBLIC REPRIMAND OF JUDGE LEVY COHEN CASE NUMBER 2024 0992. JUDGE LEVY COHEN WE'RE ISSUING THE PUBLIC REPRIMAND BECAUSE THE JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION FOUND, AND YOU AGREED THAT YOU COMMITTED MISCONDUCT AND VIOLATED SEVERAL JUDICIAL CANNONS DURING YOUR 2022 REELECTION CAMPAIGN. YOU ADMITTED TO COMMITTING TWO DISTINCT ACTS OF MISCONDUCT. FIRST, YOU DISSEMINATED UNVERIFIED INFORMATION AND ACCUSED YOUR CAMPAIGN OPPONENT OF FRAUD. SECOND, TO RETALIATE AGAINST A CHURCH WHERE YOUR OPPONENT CAMPAIGNED, YOU SENT TO THE CHURCH A LETTER WITH A FALSE RETURN ADDRESS SUGGESTING THE CORRESPONDENCE WAS FROM THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE. AS DISCIPLINE YOU AGREED TO THE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION THAT YOU RECEIVE THIS PUBLIC REPRIMAND ALONG WITH A TEN DAY SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY. JUDGE, AS YOU KNOW THE CANNONS REQUIRE JUDGES TO UPHOLD THE INTEGRITY OF THE JUDICIARY INCLUDING DURING CAMPAIGNS FOR JUDICIAL OFFICE. THERE'S ALSO A CANNON THAT SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITS JUDICIAL CANDIDATES FROM KNOWINGLY MISREPRESENTING THE FACTS ABOUT THEMSELVES OR THEIR OPPONENTS. YOU'VE ADMITTED THAT YOUR ACTIONS VIOLATED THESE CANONS. JUDGE, I WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE COMMISSION FOUND THAT YOU HAVE ACCEPTED YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND THAT YOU COOPERATED WITH THE COMMISSION IN ALL RESPECTS. AND THOSE FACTS PLAYED INTO THE MITIGATED DISCIPLINE THAT THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDED. I ALSO WANT TO EMPHASIZE THE MISCONDUCT LIKE YOURS HURTS THE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE JUDICIARY. TO THE GREAT EXTENT PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF OUR RULINGS IN FAITH IS THAT MANY OF OUR LEGAL SYSTEM DEPENDS UPON TRUST DEPENDENCY OF JUDGES. ANY UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR BY A JUDGE INCLUDING A CAMPAIGN SETTING PUTS THE TRUST AT RISK. PLEASE DON'T MAKE MISTAKES LIKE THIS AGAIN.

YOUR REPRIMAND IS CONCLUDED.
THANK YOU.