

When Confidentiality Ceases

Revised January 2002

Commission files formal charges against the judge (post-investigation)	The start of the fact-finding hearing	Commission files recommendation for discipline with the state's supreme court (post-hearing)	Public discipline is ordered by supreme court
Alabama	Oregon	Colorado	Delaware
Alaska		Idaho	D.C. ⁶
Arizona		Iowa	Hawaii
Arkansas ¹		Louisiana	
California		Maine ⁵	
Connecticut		Mississippi	
Florida		Missouri	
Georgia		New Mexico	
Illinois		New York	
Indiana		South Dakota	
Kansas		Utah	
Kentucky		Virginia	
Maryland		Wyoming	
Massachusetts ²			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Montana			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire ³			
New Jersey			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina ⁴			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Vermont			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			

1. **Arkansas.** Any action taken by the Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission, such as dismissal of a complaint, admonition, or other sanction, or the filing of formal charges against a judge, becomes public information.

2. **Massachusetts.** Proceedings may remain confidential if the judge, the Commission on Judicial Conduct, and the complainant, if any, all concur.

3. **New Hampshire.** Once the Judicial Conduct Commission takes final action, all materials relating to a complaint against a judge are available for public inspection.

4. **South Carolina.** Formal charges and any answer become public 30 days after the answer is filed, and all subsequent records and proceedings are open to the public.

5. **Maine.** The judge or the Committee on Judicial Responsibility and Disability, after allowing the judge to comment, may determine the hearing should be public.

6. **D.C.** Confidentiality ceases on the filing of a notice or appeal of a decision of the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure with the D.C. Court of Appeals.

