

**SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY
D-92 September Term 2024
090589**

In the Matter of :

Robert M. LePore :

O R D E R

A Judge of the Municipal Court :

The Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct having filed with the Court pursuant to Rule 2:15-15(a), a presentment finding by clear and convincing evidence that **Robert M. LePore**, while a Judge of the Municipal Court of Point Pleasant Beach, violated the following Canons and Rules of the Code of Judicial Conduct: Canon 1, Rule 1.1 (requiring judges to observe high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the Judiciary may be preserved), Canon 2, Rule 2.1 (requiring judges to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety and to act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the Judiciary), Canon 2, Rule 2.3(A) (prohibiting judges from lending the prestige of judicial office to advance personal or economic interests of others), Canon 2, Rule 2.3(B) (prohibiting judges from conveying the impression that any organization or person can influence them), Canon 3, Rule 3.17(B) (requiring

judges to disqualify themselves in proceedings if their impartiality or their appearance of impartiality may be reasonably questioned), Canon 5, Rule 5.1(A) (requiring judges to conduct their extrajudicial activities in a manner that would not cast reasonable doubt on the judge's capacity to act impartially as a judge, demean the judicial office, or interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties), Canon 5, Rule 5.1(B)(1) (prohibiting judges from engaging in activities that can reasonably lead to frequent disqualifications), Canon 5, Rule 5.1(B)(2) (prohibiting judges from engaging in activities that would appear to reasonably informed persons to undermine a judge's integrity, impartiality, or independence), and Canon 7, Rule 7(A)(2) (requiring judges to remain free of politics, including publicly endorsing a candidate); and

The Committee having recommended to the Court based on its findings in the presentment that **Robert M. LePore** be suspended from the performance of respondent's judicial duties, without pay, for a period of two months; and

The Committee having further recommended that, prior to returning to the bench, respondent be required to complete, at respondent's expense, a minimum of four hours of in-person continuing professional development courses, approved by the Court, concerning systemic, actual, and implicit bias;

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that the findings and recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct are adopted and **Robert M. LePore**, a Judge of the Municipal Court, is hereby suspended from the performance of respondent's judicial duties for two months, without pay, effective June 4, 2025; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent shall complete, at respondent's expense, a minimum of four hours of in-person continuing professional development courses, pre-approved by the Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct, concerning systemic, actual, and implicit bias; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent shall, prior to returning to the bench, provide proof to respondent's Assignment Judge that four hours of in-person continuing professional development courses concerning systemic, actual and implicit bias have been completed.

WITNESS, the Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice, at Trenton, this 28th day of May, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather J. Baker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Heather" and last name "Baker" clearly distinguishable.

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT