

EXECUTIVE ORDER

In order to assist judicial officers in complying with Article VI of the Supreme Court Rules for Judicial Conduct, the Chief Justice is to appoint judicial officers to an advisory committee with the authority to interpret the Code of Judicial Conduct and to provide an opinion upon the request of any judicial officer concerning a proposed action and the propriety of the action relative to the Code.

The Judicial Advisory Committee consists of five (5) members of the Judiciary, not more than two (2) of whom may be from the same court. The Judicial Advisory Committee will give the inquiring judicial officer an opinion in respect to the propriety or impropriety of the judicial officer's proposed action provided that an opinion may not be issued where the request concerns a matter that is pending before a court. An opinion from the Judicial Advisory Committee that the judicial officer's action is proper will give rise to a conclusive presumption that the judicial officer has acted properly. Any judicial officer who acts in accordance with an opinion given by the Judicial Advisory Committee shall be presumed to have abided by the Code of Judicial Conduct.

The five (5) members of the Judicial Advisory Committee so appointed are as follows:

Associate Judge Robert E. Hardman, Workers' Compensation Court - Chair

Associate Justice Judge Brian Van Couyghen, Superior Court

Associate Justice Lia Stuhlsatz, Family Court

Associate Judge Stephen M. Isherwood, District Court

Magistrate Erika Kruse Weller, Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal

Each member shall serve for a term of three (3) years. A staff attorney will be assigned to the Judicial Advisory Committee.

Entered as an Executive Order on the 13th day of *April 2026*.

By Order:

/s/

Paul A. Suttell
Chief Justice