

Establishment

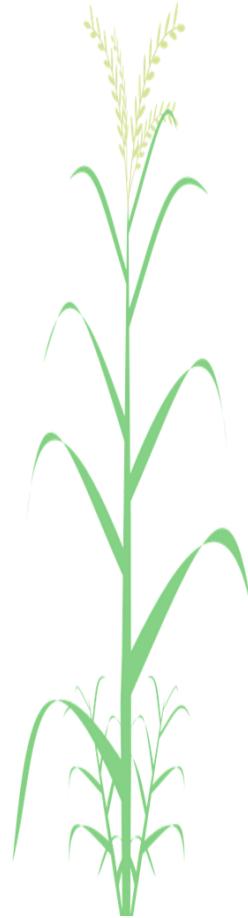
The Judicial Conduct Commission is established at 7 N.N.C. § 421 as an independent commission receiving administrative assistance from the Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation.

Membership

*Hon. Robert Yazzie,
Chairman
Dr. Manley Begay,
Vice Chairman
Judy Apachee, Esq.
Hon. Troy Eid
Hon. William Thorne*

Five (5) Commission members pursuant to 7 N.N.C. § 423:

- *One (1) sitting or retired federal or state court justice or judge.*
- *One (1) retired Navajo Nation justice or judge in good standing.*
- *Two (2) regular or inactive members of the Navajo Nation Bar Association.*
- *One (1) member of the Navajo general public selected by the Law and Order Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.*



Contact

JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION

**P.O Box 520
Window Rock , AZ 86515
www.navajocourts.org/JCC**



**Judicial
Conduct
Commission**

*Aadahwiint'íídóó Nihwiit'aah
Bik'íyáátih Yik'idéez'í'ígíí*

Powers

- *Provide public education on the role of the 'ánihwíí'ahii as naat'áanii and its significance in Navajo society.*
- *Develop methodologies, tools and professional education to improve judicial performance.*
- *Participate in discussion of ethical standards and responsibilities of 'ánihwíí'ahii as naat'áanii.*
- *Accept referrals from the Chief Justice or the Law & Order Committee concerning alleged complaints or grievances against justices and judges.*
- *Review and recommend corrective action for Navajo Nation Judiciary, if appropriate.*
- *Refer all complaints not properly before the Commission to the Chief Justice or Law & Order Committee.*

This brochure contains excerpts from the Judicial Conduct Commission Plan of Operations and Rules. The complete Plan of Operations and Rules & Procedures are available at www.navajocourts.org/JCC.html

Purpose

- *Recognize that the leaders of the Judicial Branch (Alqají' Hashkééjí Nahat'á) shall uphold the values and principles of Diné bi beenahaz'áanii pursuant to 1 N.N.C. § 203(E).*
- *Enhance public confidence in the Navajo Nation Judiciary by providing education on the responsibilities and significance of 'ánihwíí'ahii as naat'áanii in Navajo society.*
- *Educate the public of the Navajo Nation Judiciary's role in protection, preservation and maintenance of Navajo Nation sovereignty and nahat'á.*
- *Provide a forum for dispute resolution and interpretation of laws and regulations with consideration of traditions of the Diné.*
- *Advise the Chief Justice of the Judicial Branch to ensure that judges continue to fulfill their duties and obligations consistent with hózhó for Diné and those who have dealings with Diné.*

Process

- *Complaints against Judges and Justices must be filed with the Office of the Chief Justice. Complaints against the Chief Justice must be filed with the Law & Order Committee.*
- *If appropriate, the Chief Justice or Law & Order Committee may refer such complaints to the Commission for review and recommendation. The Commission will not accept complaints directly from the public.*
- *The Commission must hold an initial conference within 15 days of receiving a referral. The Commission will plan how to proceed during this conference.*
- *The Commission has authority to conduct investigations into referrals.*
- *Findings and recommendations of the Commission will be sent to the referring party.*
- *The Chief Justice and the appropriate parties will be notified if a recommendation for suspension or removal is decided by the Commission.*