

<p>Colorado Independent Judicial Discipline Adjudicative Board 2 East 14th Avenue Denver, CO 80203</p>	
<p>Original Proceeding Pursuant to Colorado Constitution Article VI, § 23</p>	
<p>THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE</p> <p>Plaintiff,</p> <p>vs.</p> <p>JUDGE JUSTIN B. HAENLEIN, a District Court Judge of the 13th Judicial District</p> <p>Defendant.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲</p>
<p>Attorney for Defendant: David M. Beller, No. 35767 RECHT KORNFELD, P.C. 1600 Stout Street, Suite 1400 Denver, CO 80202 Tel: (303) 573-1900 Fax: (303) 446-9400 david@rklawpc.com</p>	<p>CCJD Case Number: 24-176</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">DEFENDANT’S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT</p>	

Judge Justin B. Haenlein, through his counsel, David M. Beller of Recht Kornfeld, P.C., respectfully files this Answer to Plaintiff’s complaint:

THE PARTIES, VENUE, AND JURISDICTION

1. Admitted.
2. Admitted.
3. Admitted.
4. Denied. Neither the Weld County District Court nor any Division of it has jurisdiction over this matter. The case has been referred to a panel of the Independent Judicial

Discipline Adjudicative Board, which is neither constituted as part of nor under the authority of the Weld County District Court.

- a. Admitted.
 - b. Admitted.
 - c. Admitted.
 - d. Paragraph 4(d) states a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Judge Haenlein consents to the jurisdiction of the Adjudicative Panel.
5. Denied. Venue does not lie in the Weld County District Court, which provides, by statute, that the court provides administrative support. Venue lies with the Adjudicative Panel.
 6. Admitted.
 7. Admitted.
 8. Admitted. Judge Haenlein asserts the personal and flirtatious communication with Ms. Doe ended in 2022, prior to Ms. Doe's cases being filed in Judge Haenlein's division.
 9. Admitted.
 10. Admitted.
 11. Admitted. Judge Haenlein asserts that the relationship never became physical or intimate in any fashion.
 12. Admitted.
 13. Admitted.
 14. Admitted.
 15. Admitted. Judge Haenlein asserts he never asked Ms. Doe for the photo and agreed to help Ms. Doe with additional funds prior to her sending the unsolicited photo.
 16. Admitted.
 17. Admitted. Judge Haenlein asserts continuances are granted as appropriate throughout a case as a matter of law and routine and Ms. Doe did not receive preferential treatment.
 18. Admitted. Judge Haenlein asserts he has no memory of receiving the text, nor did he acknowledge or respond to the same.

19. Admitted.

a. Admitted.

b. Admitted.

20. Admitted. Judge Haenlein asserts bond reductions are granted as appropriate throughout a case as a matter of law and routine and Mr. Doe did not receive preferential treatment.

21. Admitted.

22. Admitted that is the position of Plaintiff.

FIRST CLAIM
Canon Rule 1.1

23. Paragraph 23 is an incorporation paragraph to which no response is required.

24. Admitted.

25. Admitted.

SECOND CLAIM
Canon Rule 1.2

1. Paragraph 1¹ is an incorporation paragraph to which no response is required.

2. Admitted.

3. Admitted.

4. Admitted.

THIRD CLAIM
Canon Rule 2.11

5. Paragraph 5 is an incorporation paragraph to which no response is required.

6. Admitted.

7. Admitted. Judge Haenlein asserts he has no memory of receiving the text, nor did he acknowledge or respond to the same.

¹ The paragraph numbering in the Complaint restarts at “1” with the second claim for relief. This answer tracks the complaint’s paragraph numbering.

FOURTH CLAIM
Canon Rule 3.10

- 8. Admitted.
- 9. Admitted.
- 10. Admitted.

PLAINTIFF'S PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Contemporaneously with the filing of this Answer, Judge Haenlein is submitting his resignation as a District Court Judge for the 13th Judicial District effective April 30, 2025. Judge Haenlein's resignation moots this matter and deprives the Adjudicative Panel of jurisdiction to continue this proceeding or independently impose any discipline or sanction beyond that which is stipulated. Therefore, Plaintiff's prayer for relief is denied.

GENERAL DENIAL

Unless admitted in this Answer, Judge Haenlein denies any other allegation against him.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

The Adjudicative Panel is operating without any clearly articulated rules or procedures. The absence of rules and procedures may deny Judge Haenlein his constitutional right to due process of law.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, as Judge Haenlein has resigned effective April 30, 2025, this Panel should dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint or, in the alternative, accept and enter parties' Stipulation for Public Censure.

Respectfully submitted this 29th day of April, 2025.

RECHT KORNFELD, P.C.



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Attorney for Defendant

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 29, 2025, a true and correct copy of the foregoing **DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT** was served on counsel for the Colorado Commission on Judicial Discipline via email.



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