

NEW YORK COURT OF APPEALS

Matter of Jones v. New York State Commn. on Jud. Conduct

2026 NY Slip Op 02362 · No. No. 67 · Decided April 16, 2026

SUMMARY

The New York Court of Appeals suspended Hon. Walter W. Jones, a Justice of the Canandaigua Town Court, with pay effective immediately. The suspension was ordered pending review of a determination by the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct, pursuant to the New York Constitution and Judiciary Law.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	New York Court of Appeals
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Chief Judge Wilson; Judge Garcia; Judge Singas; Judge Cannataro; Judge Troutman; Judge Halligan
JURISDICTION	New York Court of Appeals
DECIDED	April 16, 2026
DOCKET	No. 67
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	On the Court of Appeals' own motion, the court temporarily suspended a town court justice with pay pending review of a determination by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published New York Court of Appeals opinion
PARTIES	Walter W. Jones, Petitioner v. New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct, Respondent

TOPICS

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PRACTICE AREAS

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QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Court of Appeals should suspend a town court justice with pay, effective immediately, pending review of a determination by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.

HOLDINGS

1. The Court of Appeals determined that Honorable Walter W. Jones should be suspended with pay, effective immediately, from the office of Justice of the Canandaigua Town Court pending review of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct's determination.

KEY QUOTATIONS

*“On the Court's own motion, it is determined that Honorable Walter W. Jones is suspended with pay, effective immediately, from the office of Justice of the Canandaigua Town Court, Ontario County, pursuant to New York Constitution, article VI, § 22 and Judiciary Law § 44 (8), pending review of a determination of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.” (*1)*

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Walter W. Jones was a justice of the Canandaigua Town Court in Ontario County. The State Commission on Judicial Conduct issued a determination concerning him, which was pending review. The Court of Appeals ordered that Jones be suspended with pay from office during that review.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct made a determination concerning Honorable Walter W. Jones. While review of that determination was pending, the New York Court of Appeals acted on its own motion and suspended Jones with pay, effective immediately, from his judicial office.

DISPOSITION

other