



## *Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission*

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### PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2009

The Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission today announced the scheduling of two formal disciplinary hearings. The hearings will be conducted as a result of the Commission's investigation into cases and a finding of probable cause by the Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission. Hearings dates will be set according to the JDDC Rules of Procedure.

An agreed hearing date has been set in cases involving Judge Willard Proctor of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court in Little Rock. A formal hearing will be held on April 27 - May 1, 2009 on allegations that Judge Proctor willfully violated the Arkansas Code of Judicial Conduct in his involvement with probationers and the Cycle Breakers, Inc. program established for his Fifth Division Circuit Court.

Former Marshall District Court Judge Jerry Patterson will face a Formal Disciplinary Hearing at the regularly scheduled March Commission meeting, on Friday, March 13, 2009. The Commission alleges former Judge Patterson failed to collect traffic fines after a disagreement with the Searcy County Quorum Court, creating a hardship on defendants appearing in his court.

Please note, the Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission usually meets the third Friday of every other month. However; by vote of the Commission, the March 2009 meeting has been moved to March 13, the second Friday of March.