



In the  
**Indiana Supreme Court**

IN THE MATTER OF THE )  
HON. JENNIFER L. KOETHE, )  
JUDGE OF LaPORTE SUPERIOR )  
COURT NO. 3 )

Cause No. 46S00-0905-JD-216

**ORDER SUSPENDING JUDICIAL OFFICER**

On May 8, 2009, the Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications (“Commission”) filed a “Notice of Indictment and Request for Suspension” with this Court, informing us that on May 7, 2009, a grand jury, through a Special Prosecutor of LaPorte County, had filed an indictment against the Honorable Jennifer L. Koethe, Judge of LaPorte Superior Court No. 3. The indictment, filed in cause number 46C01-0905-FD-220, charges Respondent with Obstruction of Justice, a Class D felony, under Indiana Code sections 35-44-3-4, 35-41-5-1, and 35-41-2-4.

Indiana Admission and Discipline Rule 25(V)(A) provides in relevant part that

“[a] judicial officer shall be suspended with pay by the Indiana Supreme Court . . . upon the filing of an indictment or information charging the judicial officer in any court in the United States with a crime punishable as a felony under the laws of Indiana or the United States.”

Ind. Admission and Discipline Rule 25(V)(A) (Thomson Reuters/West 2009). Accordingly, Judge Jennifer L. Koethe is hereby **SUSPENDED WITH PAY** effective at 12:00 a.m. on Monday, May 11, 2009. This suspension will continue in effect until further order of this Court.

The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this order to the Hon. Jennifer L. Koethe, LaPorte Superior Court, 809 State Street, LaPorte, IN 46350-3429; Bette L. Conroy, Clerk of the LaPorte Circuit and Superior Courts; Cathy Butiste, Administrator of LaPorte Superior Court No. 3; Craig Hinchman, Auditor of LaPorte County; Tim Berry, Auditor of the State of Indiana; Kevin S. Smith, Indiana Supreme Court Clerk/Administrator; Lilia Judson, Executive Director of the Division of State Court Administration; Jane Seigel, Executive Director of the Indiana Judicial Center; and Kathryn Dolan, Supreme Court Public Information Officer. The Clerk is also directed to post this order to the Court’s website.

The Clerk of the LaPorte Circuit and Superior Courts is directed to place a copy of this order in the Record of Judgments and Orders of LaPorte Superior Court No. 3.

Done at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2009.

Brent E. Dickson  
Acting Chief Justice of Indiana