



PATRICK F. DUGAN
PRESIDENT JUDGE EMERITUS

First Judicial District of Pennsylvania
PHILADELPHIA MUNICIPAL COURT
JUDICIAL CHAMBERS

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Governor Josh Shapiro
501 North 3rd Street
508 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg PA, 17120

December 5, 2024

Dear Governor Shapiro,

I am writing to formally resign from my position as a Judge of the Philadelphia Municipal Court, effective at the close of business on December 11, 2024. For the past 17 years, I have had the privilege of being in the courtroom, hearing cases that directly impact the lives of the people of Philadelphia. My focus has always been on balancing the interests of victims and defendants to ensure fairness and justice for all.

When I first took the oath as a young paratrooper, I made a lifelong commitment to serve, a commitment that carried me through 23 years of military service. That same sense of duty guided me when I took the judicial oath to support, obey, and defend the Constitution and faithfully discharge my responsibilities.

I am especially proud of the innovative restorative justice programs we've built in Philadelphia Municipal Court, which have become models for the nation. Programs like Dawn's Court, Drug Treatment Court, Mental Health Court, Eviction Diversion Court, DUI Treatment Court, Domestic Violence Court and The Choice Is Yours have changed lives and demonstrated how the justice system can be a force for good. The creation of Veterans Treatment Court in 2010, which I had the honor of helping to establish and preside over, remains one of my proudest accomplishments.

It has been an honor to serve both the citizens of Philadelphia and my colleagues on the bench, who entrusted me with leadership as President Judge. I leave this position with immense gratitude for the opportunity to serve and pride in what we've achieved together.

Thank you for your unwavering support for the rule of law during your time as Attorney General and Governor.

Sincerely,

Judge Pat Dugan
President Judge Emeritus