<u>The Texas State Constitution</u>. <u>Article 5; The Judicial Department</u>.

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Sec. 1. JUDICIAL POWER; COURTS IN WHICH VESTED. The judicial power of this State shall be vested in one Supreme Court, in <u>one Court of Criminal Appeals</u>, in Courts of Appeals, in District Courts, <u>in County Courts</u>, <u>in Commissioners Courts</u>, <u>in Courts of Justices of the Peace</u>, <u>and in such other courts as may be provided by law</u>. ... (Amended Aug. 11, 1891, Nov. 8, 1977, and Nov. 4, 1980.)

> Sec. 1-a. RETIREMENT, CENSURE, <u>REMOVAL</u>, AND COMPENSATION <u>OF JUSTICES AND JUDGES</u>; STATE <u>COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT</u>; PROCEDURE.

. . .

(6) A. <u>Any Justice or Judge of the courts established by this Constitution</u> <u>or created by the Legislature</u> as provided in Section 1, Article V, of this Constitution, <u>may</u>, subject to the other provisions hereof, be removed from office

<u>for</u>

willful or persistent violation of rules promulgated by the Supreme Court of Texas, <u>incompetence in performing the duties of the office,</u> <u>willful violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct,</u> <u>or willful or persistent conduct that is clearly inconsistent with</u> <u>the proper performance of his duties</u> <u>or casts public discredit upon the judiciary or administration of justice</u>.

On the filing of a sworn complaint charging a person holding such office with willful or persistent violation of rules promulgated by the Supreme Court of Texas, <u>incompetence in performing the duties of the office,</u> <u>willful violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct,</u> <u>or willful and persistent conduct that is clearly</u> <u>inconsistent with the proper performance of his duties</u> <u>or casts public discredit on the judiciary or on the administration of justice,</u> <u>the Commission, after giving the person notice and an opportunity to appear and be</u> <u>heard before the Commission, may recommend</u> to the Supreme Court <u>the suspension of such person from office</u>.