

**STANDING ORDER AND NOTICE FOR ALL CASES PENDING  
BEFORE JUDGE LISA M. RAU**

**AND NOW**, this **15th** day of **November, 2017**, all parties and counsel are hereby **NOTIFIED** that because Judge Lisa Rau's spouse, Lawrence Krasner, was a candidate for District Attorney in Philadelphia, there is a possibility that someone involved in a case (counsel, party, or witness) may have made a financial contribution to the campaign fund or PAC of her spouse or that of another candidate who ran for District Attorney. This Order delineates the procedures that the Court is implementing to allow counsel and litigants to raise any concerns they may have where someone involved in a case has made contributions to Judge Rau's spouse's campaign fund or PAC or that of another candidate who ran for District Attorney.

1. The Preamble of the Code of Judicial Conduct states that:  
"Judges should uphold the dignity of judicial office at all times, avoiding both impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in their professional and personal lives. They should at all times conduct themselves in a manner that garners the highest level of public confidence in their independence, fairness, impartiality, integrity, and competence."  
Canons I and II of the Code of Judicial Conduct formalize this mandate.
2. There are circumstances in which a judge may have no actual bias or prejudice but where there may be an appearance of impropriety that might warrant having another judge preside over a case. A judge may still preside over such a case if, after full disclosure of all relevant information, the parties and their counsel agree to the judge's continued participation and waive any objection.
3. Given the high volume of cases assigned to Judge Rau in her role as Team Leader for the 2017 major civil cases, the regular additions and substitutions of parties and counsel, and ongoing contributions that are made to a campaign or PAC, it is not practical nor reliable for Judge Rau to know whether anyone (counsel, party, or witness) involved in each case has or has not contributed to any of the candidates who ran for District Attorney, including her spouse. In addition, Judge Rau is totally uninvolved in any political activities of her spouse, including fundraising, and does not review contributions that have been made to the campaign funds or PACs of any of the candidates who ran for District Attorney, including her spouse.
4. All counsel are hereby put on **NOTICE** that, if any counsel or litigant determines after reviewing publicly available sources or learning through other sources that anyone (counsel, party, or witness) involved in a case assigned to Judge Rau has contributed to Judge Rau's spouse's or a competing candidate's campaign fund or PAC<sup>1</sup> and believes that contribution would

---

<sup>1</sup> Reports of contributions are available as public records from the County Board of Elections, City Hall, Room 142, 1400 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19107; (215) 686-3943; <http://www.philadelphiovotes.com/en/candidates-a-campaigns/campaign-finance-reports/item/578> and from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation, 210 North Office Bldg., 401 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120; (717) 787-5280; [www.dos.pa.gov/VotingElections/CandidatesCommittees/CampaignFinance](http://www.dos.pa.gov/VotingElections/CandidatesCommittees/CampaignFinance). For contributions made

reasonably raise concerns about Judge Rau's impartiality or would create any appearance of impropriety, that party may object to Judge Rau's continued participation in the case based on those contributions.

5. To object, counsel must sign and return the attached request form within 10 days of the date of this Order. To object based on contributions made after the date of this Order, counsel or the party must object within 10 days of learning of the contribution using the same form. Copies of the objection must be sent to all counsel and unrepresented parties involved in the case by first class and certified mail. Objections should be sent to:

Judge Idee Fox  
Supervising Judge of Civil  
City Hall, Suite 656  
1400 John F. Kennedy Blvd.  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Objections and any responses will be reviewed confidentially and will NOT be divulged to Judge Rau or her staff. Objections and any responses will not be made part of the public record unless one of the involved parties submits a written request to Judge Fox with notice to all parties that a record be made. Judge Fox may require further information if it appears that the basis of an objection is beyond the scope of this Order. The signature and identity of counsel or party are required on the response form for record keeping purposes only. Anyone who opposes an objection must use the same procedure outlined above but designate on the form that they are opposing the objection and send the form to Judge Fox within 10 days of the initial objection. If an objection is within the scope of this Order, the case may be reassigned and Judge Rau will discontinue her participation in all aspects of this case. If you do not object within the prescribed time, you will be deemed to have waived any objection to Judge Rau's participation in any aspect of this case.

6. Plaintiff's counsel shall be responsible for providing a copy of this Order to any counsel or parties who become involved in this case after the date of this Order.
7. Counsel are urged to use this process in the spirit in which it is intended so as to maintain the integrity of the legal profession and our system of justice.

BY THE COURT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa M. Rau, J.

Short Caption: \_\_\_\_\_

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Judge Idee Fox  
Supervising Judge of Civil  
City Hall, Suite 656  
1400 John F. Kennedy Blvd.  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Please check one:

- Based on political contributions to the campaign fund of Judge Lisa Rau's spouse or that of a competing candidate, the undersigned requests that Judge Rau no longer participate in the above-referenced case.
- The undersigned opposes an objection that has been made to Judge Rau's participation in the above-referenced case as outside the scope of Judge Rau's Standing Order. A copy of the original objection is attached.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Party Representing

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

NOTE: Your signature and identity on the response form are required for record keeping purposes only. Whether you object, or oppose an objection, your action will not be divulged to Judge Rau or her staff. Objections will not be made part of the public record unless one of the involved parties submits a written request to Judge Fox with notice to all parties that a record be made and Judge Fox approves of the request.

