



**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT  
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO**

<b>In Re:</b>	)	<b>CASE NO. 2020-0064</b>
	)	
<b>Complaint against</b>	)	
	)	<b>AGREEMENT FOR</b>
<b>Anthony Baker (0084620)</b>	)	<b>CONSENT TO DISCIPLINE</b>
	)	
<b>Respondent,</b>	)	<b>Under Gov. Bar Rule V, Sec. 16</b>
	)	
<b>Cleveland Metropolitan Bar</b>	)	
<b>Association</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Relator.</b>	)	

Now come the Relator Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and Respondent Anthony Baker, who enter into this Consent to Discipline pursuant to the provisions of Gov. Bar Rule V, Section 16.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND AGREEMENTS**

Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (Relator) and Anthony Baker (Respondent) acknowledge and agree that this Consent to Discipline was entered into with the understanding that if the hearing panel or the full Board of Professional Conduct (the Board) or the Supreme Court of Ohio rejects the proposed sanctions set forth in this Consent to Discipline, then this matter will be returned to the hearing panel pursuant to Gov. Bar Rule V, Section 16 and set for hearing pursuant to Gov. Bar Rule V, Section 12.

Relator and Respondent further acknowledge and agree that this Consent to Discipline agreement, including the Affidavit of Respondent attached hereto and

incorporated herein, if not accepted by the hearing panel, the Board, or the Supreme Court of Ohio, can not and will not be admitted into evidence or otherwise used in any subsequent disciplinary proceedings against Respondent.

### **STIPULATED FACTS**

1. Respondent was admitted to practice law in the State of Ohio on May 18, 2009.
2. Respondent is subject to the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct and to the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio.
3. Denayne Davidson-Dixon (“Davidson-Dixon”) was indicted by the Cuyahoga County, Ohio Grand Jury on October 29, 2019 on counts of felonious assault and domestic violence. The indictment was assigned Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Case No. CR-19-645234, *State of Ohio v. Denayne Davidson-Dixon* (“Case No. CR-19-645234”). (Ex. A)
4. Respondent was retained as counsel for Davidson-Dixon in Case No. CR-19-645234. He entered an appearance on behalf of Davidson-Dixon on November 1, 2019.
5. Judge Nancy A. Fuerst presided over the case.
6. On December 16, 2019, Respondent, on behalf of Davidson-Dixon, filed a Notice of Claim of an Affirmative Defense notifying the State of Davidson-Dixon’s intention to offer self-defense as an affirmative defense at trial.
7. On January 27, 2020, Respondent, on behalf of Davidson-Dixon, filed a Notice of intent to use Evid. R. 406 and victim’s violent disposition in conjunction with his self-defense claim.

8. On January 28, 2020, the State filed a Motion in Limine pertaining to evidence to be used in the self-defense claim.
9. On January 29, 2020, the trial of Case No. CR-19-645234 commenced.
10. On February 3, 2020, at the close of trial, Respondent requested that Judge Fuerst give a self-defense jury instruction. That request was denied.
11. Respondent disagreed with the ruling and, after a discussion in chambers, decided to stage a protest so he would not be involved in what he believed was the violation of his client's rights.
12. Respondent repeatedly sought to stop the trial from proceeding and told Judge Fuerst that he would sit in the back of the courtroom. Respondent was ordered to sit down at the defense table and be quiet.
13. In front of the jury during the reading of jury instructions, Respondent left the defense table and stood behind a large television stand. Respondent admitted, "I moved away from the table so it was clear I'm not participating."
14. As a result of Respondent's actions, Judge Fuerst stopped giving jury instructions and dismissed the jury for a lunch break.
15. Ultimately, the trial resumed and the jury returned a verdict for the lesser offense of aggravated assault and domestic violence.
16. On February 13, 2020, Respondent was found in contempt of court for his actions on February 3, 2020 and ordered to handwrite selections from the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct and pay a \$500 fine. (Ex. B)
17. Respondent was ordered by Judge Fuerst to handwrite 25 times: "I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law" and "I shall not engage in

conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to tribunal.” (Id.)

18. Respondent complied with the written portion of the contempt entry before leaving the courtroom. (Id.)

19. Respondent admitted that he deserved the punishment he received because he was “out of line” and expected to go jail for his actions on February 3, 2020. (Ex. C)

20. Respondent has never disagreed that his conduct was inappropriate and was extremely deferential to Judge Fuerst in the media, stating, “She’s right, I was wrong” and “I should not have taken that stand. I’m grateful for the penalty that I did get.” (Id.)

#### **STIPULATED RULE VIOLATIONS**

Respondent admits that his conduct as set forth herein violates the following rules of the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct:

- a. Prof. Cond. Rule 3.5(a)(5), which provides that a lawyer shall not “engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal.”
- b. Prof. Cond. Rule 3.5(a)(6), which provides that a lawyer shall not “engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal.”
- c. Prof. Cond. Rule 8.4(d), which provides that it is professional misconduct to “engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.”

#### **STIPULATED MITIGATION EVIDENCE**

1. Respondent has no prior disciplinary record.
2. Respondent did not exhibit a dishonest or selfish intent or motive.
3. Respondent has shown a cooperative attitude toward proceedings.

4. Respondent was previously sanctioned by the trial court.

#### **STIPULATED AGGRAVATION EVIDENCE**

There are no aggravating factors as same are identified in Gov. Bar R. V, Section 13(B).

#### **STIPULATED RECOMMENDED SANCTION**

The parties stipulate and agree to a recommended sanction of a public reprimand for the noted violations of Prof Cond. Rules 3.5(a)(5), 3.5(a)(6), and 8.4(d). These violations originate from the same instance of misconduct by Respondent, i.e. disrupting the proceedings in Judge Fuerst's courtroom and refusing to participate in the trial of Denayne Davidson-Dixon during the presentation of a jury instruction.

In considering this recommended stipulated sanction, the parties looked to the recent Supreme Court of Ohio decision in *Erie-Huron Cty. Bar Assn. v. Bailey and Bailey*, 2020-Ohio-3701. There, Kenneth Ronald Bailey ("Bailey") of Sandusky, Ohio was suspended for one year with six months stayed for refusing to participate in the entire trial of his criminal defendant client. *Id.* at ¶42. In that case, Bailey's actions were premeditated over a lengthy period of time during several phases of trial that frustrated the trial proceedings with discourteous behavior and a disruptive motion practice and a more severe sanction than public reprimand was warranted. Here, Respondent's actions were brief, spur-of-the-moment and isolated to a single phase of trial and a lesser sanction is deserved.

Bailey represented Richard Mick who was charged with two counts of gross sexual imposition and two counts of rape of a child under the age of 13. *Id.* at ¶5. In May, 2016, four days before a scheduled trial date that had already been moved on the

defense's motion, Bailey asked to reschedule the trial date to accommodate an expert witness. *Id.* at ¶9. The court granted that motion and rescheduled the trial to October 4, 2016. *Id.* Three days later, Bailey sought another continuance to accommodate both the expert and travel to his son's wedding in Las Vegas the weekend before October 4<sup>th</sup>. *Id.* at ¶10. The court denied that motion. *Id.* Over the next couple of months, Bailey repeatedly sought to move the trial date while developing a strategy that he would not participate in the trial due to issues related with the expert and the court's refusal to move the trial date. *Id.* at ¶11-13. Bailey's repeated motions to continue the trial were filed up to the eve of trial. *Id.* at ¶14.

On the day of trial, Bailey appeared in court with his son, also a lawyer, and both refused to participate in any aspect of the trial. *Id.* at ¶15-18. During the trial proceedings, Bailey made defiant pronouncements in open court. *Id.* at ¶15. Bailey argued with the judge in front of the jury and refused to step away from the bench when admonished to do so. *Id.* at ¶16. Bailey made oral motions to reconsider and sought appellate review during trial. *Id.* at ¶17. When threatened with an order of direct contempt, Bailey and his son continued to refuse to participate in any phase of trial that ended in a conviction of Bailey's client on all counts and a lengthy prison sentence. *Id.* at ¶18.

In considering the sanction for Bailey, the Court found two aggravating factors that are not present here. Bailey committed multiple offenses of the Rules of Professional Conduct during his in-trial antics and he refused to acknowledge the wrongful nature of his conduct. *Id.* at ¶33. The Court found that "Bailey took the administration of justice in his own hands" and his behavior was "extremely disruptive" in refusing to participate in every phase of the trial of his criminal client. *Id.* at ¶43.

Ultimately, Bailey served 30 days in jail for contempt of court and was suspended from the practice of law for his in-court misconduct. Such a severe sanction is not warranted here.

There are several key differences in Respondent's actions from the *Bailey* case that the Board should consider. Here, Respondent refused to participate in an isolated portion of one phase of the trial – the reading of a single jury instruction. Indeed, Respondent walked away from defense counsel's table and stood behind a screen in front of the jury before Judge Fuerst could instruct the jury. After dismissing the jury for a lunch break, Respondent was ordered to return to counsel's table so that instructing the jury could continue and he immediately did so without further interruption. Respondent's strategy here was not a months-long-in-the-making premeditated attack. Motion practice on the self-defense jury instruction happened just days before trial and Respondent's oral motion on the self-defense jury instruction occurred on the last day of trial – a trial where respondent fully participated in all aspects on behalf of his client.

After his brief courtroom protest, the trial concluded without incident. Respondent appeared for a contempt hearing shortly after the trial concluded and was ordered by Judge Fuerst to write out portions of the Rules of Professional Conduct 25 times and fined \$500. (Ex. B) Respondent complied with the order before leaving the court room. Respondent has never disagreed that his conduct was inappropriate and was extremely deferential to Judge Fuerst during the contempt hearing and with the media following the contempt hearing.

Considering the foregoing authorities and the agreed mitigating factors, the lack of aggravating factors, the parties' recommend sanction is a public reprimand.

**STIPULATED EXHIBITS**

Exhibit A	Docket from Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Case No. CR-19-645234, <i>State of Ohio v. Denayne Davidson-Dixon</i>
Exhibit B	Journal Entry dated 02.13.2020
Exhibit C	"Judge doles out Bart Simpson-esque punishment to lawyer held in contempt for acting out at trial in Cleveland" dated 02.15.2020

Respectfully submitted,



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ANTHONY BAKER (0084620)  
5425 Detroit Road – Suite 10  
Sheffield, Ohio 44054  
PH: 440.596.9876/FAX: 440.934.0712  
[bakera5.tony@yahoo.com](mailto:bakera5.tony@yahoo.com)

**Respondent**



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HEATHER M. ZIRKE (0074994)  
CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH KLASA (0083467)  
Bar Counsel, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar  
Association  
1375 East Ninth Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Level  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114  
PH: 216-696-3525 FAX: 216-696-2413  
[hzirke@clemetrobar.org](mailto:hzirke@clemetrobar.org)  
[cklasa@clemetrobar.org](mailto:cklasa@clemetrobar.org)

**Attorneys for Relator Cleveland  
Metropolitan Bar Association**



**STATE OF OHIO** )  
 ) **SS:** **AFFIDAVIT**  
**COUNTY OF LORAIN** )

I, ANTHONY BAKER, having been duly sworn according to the laws of the State of Ohio, hereby depose and say:

1. I was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Ohio on May 18, 2009.
2. I am subject to the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct and the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio.
3. I admit the misconduct outlined in the Consent to Discipline Agreement. This admission is conditioned upon the acceptance of the Consent to Discipline Agreement by the Hearing Panel, the Board of Professional Conduct and the Supreme Court of Ohio.
4. I acknowledge that grounds exist for the imposition of a sanction against me for the misconduct.
5. The Consent to Discipline sets forth all grounds for discipline currently pending before the Board, and I admit the truth of the material facts relevant to the misconduct listed in the Consent to Discipline.
6. I agree to the sanction recommended to the Board in this Consent to Discipline.
7. These admissions and the Consent to Discipline are freely and voluntarily given, without coercion or duress. Further, I am fully aware of the implications of the admissions and the Consent to Discipline on my ability to practice law in Ohio.

8. I understand that the Supreme Court of Ohio has the final authority to determine the appropriate sanction for the misconduct I have admitted.

**FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.**



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ANTHONY BAKER  
Respondent

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.








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Notary Public Deborah L. Kulick  
My commission expires: 6-3-2023

# **EXHIBIT A**









[skip to main content](#)[Print](#)**CASE INFORMATION****CR-19-645234-A THE STATE OF OHIO vs. DENAYNE DAVIDSON-DIXON****Docket Information**

Proceeding Date	Filing Date	Docket Party	Docket Type	Docket Description	View Image
07/21/2020	07/21/2020	N/A	JE	DEFT'S 5/19/20 MOTION TO ESTABLISH A DIRECT PAYMENT PLAN WITH THE CLERK'S OFFICE & MOTION TO STAY TO AVOID THE GARNISHMENT OF DEFT'S COMMISSARY ACCOUNT IS DENIED. DEFT MAY PERMIT FAMILY/FRIIENDS TO MAKE PAYMENT TOWARD SATISFACTION OF COSTS TO THE CLERK OF COURTS. 07/21/2020 CP1NF 07/21/2020 14:19:35	
05/19/2020	05/19/2020	D1	MO	MOTION FILED BY D1 DENAYNE DAVIDSON-DIXON MOTION TO ESTABLISH A DIRECT PAYMENT PLAN WITH THE CLERK'S OFFICE & MOTION TO STAY AVOID THE GARNISHMENT OF DEFENDANT'S COMMISSARY ACCOUNT 07/21/2020 - DENIED	
04/08/2020	04/08/2020	D1	CL	RECORD ON APPEAL, PAGINATION SHEET AND CRIMINAL FILE SENT TO THE COURT OF APPEALS (CASE NUMBER CA-20-109557)	
04/07/2020	04/07/2020	N/A	JE	THE COURT ORDERS MARLENE EBNER OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER TO PREPARE THE TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS OF 01/29/2020 CONSISTING OF 513 PAGES (ORIGINAL) AT \$3.25 AND 0 PAGES (COPY) AT \$0.00, IN THE TOTAL SUM OF \$1,667.25 , HEREBY ALLOWED AND ORDERED TAXED AS COST AND PAID FORTHWITH FROM THE COUNTY TREASURY	
02/28/2020	02/28/2020	N/A	NT	NOTICE OF APPEAL, PREACIPE, AND DOCKETING STATEMENT SENT TO CUYAHOGA COUNTY PROSECUTORS.	
02/28/2020	02/28/2020	D1	NT	NOTICE OF APPEAL FILED BY DEFENDANT'S COUNSEL AND THE COURT OF APPEALS CASE NUMBER IS CA-109557	
02/28/2020	02/28/2020	D1	NT	NOTICE OF APPEAL FILED	
02/19/2020	02/19/2020	D1	SF	PAYMENT RECEIVED OF ANTHONY BAKER, ESQ	
02/19/2020	02/19/2020	D1	SF	DEPOSIT REQUIRED FOR \$500.00 CONTEMPT FINE FOR JE DATED 02/13/2020, ANTHONY BAKER, ESQ	
02/19/2020	02/19/2020	N/A	OT	STATEMENT OF COURT COST SENT TO CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION FOR COLLECTION	
02/19/2020	02/19/2020	N/A	CS	COURT COST ASSESSED DENAYNE DAVIDSON-DIXON BILL AMOUNT 1154 PAID AMOUNT 0 AMOUNT DUE 1154	
02/19/2020	02/19/2020	D1	CS	JURY FEES	
02/19/2020	02/19/2020	D1	DR	COURT REPORTER FEE	
02/19/2020	02/19/2020	D1	DR	SHERIFF FEES	
02/14/2020	02/14/2020	N/A	CS	COURT REPORTER FEE	
02/14/2020	02/14/2020	N/A	CS	CALLING WITNESS	
02/14/2020	02/14/2020	N/A	SB	WITNESS VOUCHER PRINTED FOR SUBPOENA 1327212	
02/13/2020	02/13/2020	N/A	JE	COURT REPORTER SUZANNE VADNAL PRESENT. CONTEMPT HEARING HELD ON THE RECORD. CONTEMNOR ANTHONY BAKER, ESQ PRESENT. COURT INCORPORATES ITS PRIOR REMARKS PLACED ON THE RECORD ON 2/3/20. ANTHONY BAKER, ESQ IS FOUND TO BE IN (DIRECT) CONTEMPT. FINE \$500.00 PAID WITHIN 7 DAYS OF THIS ORDER TO THE CLERK OF COURTS, CRIMINAL DIVISION. CONTEMNOR FURTHER INSTRUCTED TO LEGIBLY HANDWRITE LANGUAGE ATTACHED IN EXHBIT A. 02/13/2020 CP1NF 02/13/2020 13:15:55	
02/06/2020	02/06/2020	N/A	JE	HEARING SET FOR 02/13/2020 AT 11:15 AM. CONTEMPT HEARING SET. DEFT COUNSEL BAKER SHALL BE PRESENT. FAILURE TO APPEAR	

MAY RESULT IN THE ISSUANCE OF WARRANT. 02/06/2020 CP1NF  
02/06/2020 13:01:01

02/06/2020	02/06/2020	N/A	JE	DEFT COUNSEL'S 2/5/20 MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE IS DENIED. 02/06/2020 CP1NF 02/06/2020 14:18:46	
02/05/2020	02/05/2020	N/A	CS	COURT REPORTER FEE	
02/05/2020	02/05/2020	D1	MO	MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE, FILED. 02/06/2020 - DENIED	
02/05/2020	02/05/2020	N/A	CS	REPARATION FEE RC 2743.70 ; 2937.22 ; 2949.091	
02/04/2020	02/04/2020	N/A	CS	COURT REPORTER FEE	
02/03/2020	02/03/2020	N/A	JE	DEFENDANT IN COURT. COUNSEL ANTHONY BAKER PRESENT. PROSECUTOR(S) JEFFREY M MAVER & BRIAN LYNCH PRESENT. COURT REPORTER MARLENE EBNER AND KIMBERLY GIEL PRESENT. CASE CONTINUES IN TRIAL. JURY CHARGED. CLOSING ARGUMENTS. JURY DELIBERATES. 02/03/2020 CP1NF 02/03/2020 14:51:38	
02/03/2020	02/05/2020	N/A	JE	DEFENDANT IN COURT WITH COUNSEL ANTHONY BAKER. PROSECUTING ATTORNEY(S) JEFFREY M MAVER & BRIAN LYNCH PRESENT. COURT REPORTER KIMBERLY K GIEL PRESENT. THE JURY RETURNS A VERDICT OF GUILTY OF AGGRAVATED ASSAULT 2903.12 A(1) F4 THE LESSER INCLUDED OFFENSE AS AMENDED IN COUNT(S) 1 OF THE INDICTMENT. THE JURY RETURNS A VERDICT OF GUILTY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 2919.25 A M1 AS CHARGED IN COUNT(S) 2 OF THE INDICTMENT. COUNTS 1 AND 2 MERGE FOR PURPOSES OF SENTENCING. STATE ELECTS TO SENTENCE ON COUNT 1, FEL-4. DEFENDANT ADDRESSES THE COURT, VICTIM/REP ADDRESSES THE COURT. PROSECUTORS JEFFREY M MAVER & BRIAN LYNCH ADDRESS THE COURT. THE COURT CONSIDERED ALL REQUIRED FACTORS OF THE LAW. THE COURT FINDS THAT PRISON IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE OF R. C. 2929.11. THE COURT IMPOSES A PRISON SENTENCE AT THE LORAIN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION OF 18 MONTH(S). COUNTS 1 AND 2 MERGE FOR PURPOSES OF SENTENCING. STATE ELECTS TO SENTENCE ON COUNT 1, FEL-4. COUNT(S) 2 MERGE INTO COUNT 1. STATE ELECTS TO PROCEED AS TO COUNT 1, F4: 18 MONTH(S), UP TO 3 YEARS DISCRETIONARY POST RELEASE CONTROL. * DEFENDANT ADVISED OF DISCRETIONARY 3 YEARS PRC ON 2-4-20 ON THE RECORD IN OPEN COURT. PUBLIC DEFENDER MARY CAY TYLEE APPEARED ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANT. SENTENCE IS CONSECUTIVE TO SENTENCE RE-IMPOSED IN CASE CR 609628. CONSECUTIVE TERM IMPOSED: 1. DEFENDANT COMMITTED OFFENSE WHILE ON JUDICIAL RELEASE. 2. DEFENDANT'S CRIMINAL HISTORY SHOWS THAT CONSECUTIVE TERMS ARE NEEDED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC. POST RELEASE CONTROL IS PART OF THIS PRISON SENTENCE FOR UP TO 3 YEARS DISCRETIONARY WITH THE PAROLE BOARD FOR THE ABOVE FELONY(S) UNDER R.C.2967.28. DEFENDANT ADVISED THAT IF/WHEN POST RELEASE CONTROL SUPERVISION IS IMPOSED FOLLOWING HIS/HER RELEASE FROM PRISON AND IF HE/SHE VIOLATES THAT SUPERVISION OR CONDITION OF POST RELEASE CONTROL UNDER RC 2967.131(B), PAROLE BOARD MAY IMPOSE A PRISON TERM AS PART OF THE SENTENCE OF UP TO ONE-HALF OF THE STATED PRISON TERM ORIGINALLY IMPOSED UPON THE OFFENDER. DEFENDANT TO RECEIVE JAIL TIME CREDIT FOR 105 DAY(S), TO DATE. (10-22-19 TO 2-3-2020) FINE(S) WAIVED. DEFENDANT ADVISED OF APPEAL RIGHTS. DEFENDANT INDIGENT, COURT APPOINTS PUBLIC DEFENDER AS APPELLATE COUNSEL. TRANSCRIPT AT STATE'S EXPENSE. THE COURT HEREBY ENTERS JUDGMENT AGAINST THE DEFENDANT IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE COSTS OF THIS PROSECUTION. ALL MOTIONS NOT SPECIFICALLY RULED ON PRIOR TO THE FILING OF THIS JUDGMENT ENTRY ARE DENIED AS MOOT. DEFENDANT REMANDED. SHERIFF ORDERED TO TRANSPORT DEFENDANT DENAYNE DAVIDSON-DIXON, DOB: 04/12/1984, GENDER: MALE, RACE: BLACK. 02/03/2020 CPEDB 02/05/2020 11:43:48	
01/31/2020	02/03/2020	N/A	JE	DEFENDANT IN COURT. COUNSEL ANTHONY BAKER PRESENT. PROSECUTOR(S) JEFFREY M MAVER & BRIAN LYNCH PRESENT.	

COURT REPORTER MARLENE EBNER PRESENT. CASE CONTINUES IN TRIAL. 12 JURORS + 2 ALTERNATES DEFT PRESENTS EVIDENCE. DEFT RESTS. EXHIBITS ADMITTED. DEFT RENEWS MOTION FOR ACQUITTAL PURSUANT TO CR. R. 29. MOTION DENIED. 01/31/2020 CP1NF 02/03/2020 13:13:45

01/30/2020	01/30/2020	N/A	JE	DEFENDANT IN COURT. COUNSEL ANTHONY BAKER PRESENT. PROSECUTOR(S) JEFFREY M MAVER & BRIAN LYNCH PRESENT. COURT REPORTER MARLENE EBNER PRESENT. CASE CONTINUED IN TRIAL. 12 JURORS + 2 ALTERNATES OPENING STATEMENTS. STATE PRESENTS EVIDENCE. STATE RESTS. EXHIBITS ADMITTED. DEFT MOVES FOR ACQUITTAL PURSUANT TO CR. R 29. MOTION DENIED. 01/30/2020 CP1NF 01/30/2020 16:14:18	
01/30/2020	01/30/2020	N/A	CS	COURT REPORTER FEE	
01/30/2020	01/30/2020	N/A	SB	SHERIFF SERVICE FEES FOR SUBPOENA NUMBER 1327046, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7.00.	
01/30/2020	01/30/2020	N/A	SB	SHERIFF SERVICE FEES FOR SUBPOENA NUMBER 1327045, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7.00.	
01/30/2020	01/30/2020	N/A	CS	CALLING WITNESS	
01/30/2020	01/30/2020	N/A	SB	WITNESS VOUCHER PRINTED FOR SUBPOENA 1327961	
01/30/2020	01/30/2020	N/A	CS	CALLING WITNESS	
01/30/2020	01/30/2020	N/A	SB	WITNESS VOUCHER PRINTED FOR SUBPOENA 1327046	
01/29/2020	01/29/2020	N/A	JE	DEFENDANT IN COURT. COUNSEL ANTHONY BAKER PRESENT. PROSECUTOR(S) JEFFREY M MAVER & BRIAN LYNCH PRESENT. COURT REPORTER MARLENE EBNER PRESENT. CASE CALLED FOR TRIAL. PRETRIAL MOTIONS HEARD. VOIR DIRE CONDUCTED. JURY EMPANELED AND SWORN. 12 JURORS + 2 ALTERNATES. PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTION. 01/29/2020 CP1NF 01/29/2020 16:13:45	
01/29/2020	01/29/2020	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1327961)	
01/28/2020	01/28/2020	P1	NT	STATE'S SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY UNDER RULE 16, FILED.	
01/28/2020	01/28/2020	P1	MO	MOTION IN LIMINE, FILED. 02/06/2020 - MOOT	
01/28/2020	01/28/2020	NP1	SR	ORDERED JE NOTICE(40962273) SENT BY CLERK ISSUED VIA HAND DELIVERY. TO: ASSOCIATE WARDEN C/O KEVIN O'DONNELL 1215 WEST 3RD ST CLEVELAND, OH 44113-0000	
01/27/2020	01/27/2020	N/A	JE	DEFT'S 1/27/20 REQUEST FOR HAIRCUT IS GRANTED. DEFT ORDERED TO HAVE A HAIRCUT FOR TRIAL SET FOR 1/29/20 AT 9:00 A.M. CLERK ORDERED TO SEND A COPY OF THIS ORDER TO: WARDEN, ASSOCIATE WARDEN KEVIN O'DONNELL; 1215 WEST 3RD STREET CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113 01/27/2020 CPVYH 01/27/2020 13:12:46	
01/27/2020	01/27/2020	D1	NT	DEFENDANT'S REQUEST FOR HAIRCUT AND CLOTHES FOR TRIAL, FILED	
01/27/2020	01/27/2020	D1	NT	DEFENDANT'S NOTICE OF HIS USE OF EVID. R. 406 & VICTIM'S VIOLENT DISPOSITION IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIS SELF-DEFENSE CLAIM, FILED	
01/27/2020	01/27/2020	D1	NT	DEFENDANT'S PROFFER OF HIS HIS EXHIBITS AND WITNESS LIST, FILED	
01/27/2020	01/27/2020	D1	NT	DEFENDANT'S OBJECTION TO THE STATE'S USE OF 404(B) EVIDENCE, FILED	
01/24/2020	01/24/2020	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1327212)	
01/24/2020	01/24/2020	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1327046)	
01/24/2020	01/24/2020	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1327045)	
01/23/2020	01/24/2020	N/A	JE	PROSECUTOR(S) JEFFREY M MAVER PRESENT. ATTORNEY ANTHONY BAKER PRESENT FOR DEFT FINAL PRETRIAL HELD 01/23/2020. CASE PROCEEDS AS SCHEDULED 01/23/2020 CPVYH 01/23/2020 16:54:25	
01/23/2020	01/23/2020	P1	NT	STATE'S SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY UNDER RULE 16, FILED.	
01/22/2020	01/22/2020	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1326569)	
01/22/2020	01/22/2020	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1326284)	
01/14/2020	01/14/2020	P1	NT	STATE'S SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY	

Date	Case No.	Party	Code	Description
				UNDER RULE 16, FILED.
01/13/2020	01/13/2020	N/A	CS	CALLING WITNESS
01/13/2020	01/13/2020	N/A	SB	WITNESS VOUCHER PRINTED FOR SUBPOENA 1320465
01/13/2020	01/13/2020	N/A	CS	CALLING WITNESS
01/13/2020	01/13/2020	N/A	SB	WITNESS VOUCHER PRINTED FOR SUBPOENA 1320467
01/13/2020	01/13/2020	N/A	CS	CALLING WITNESS
01/13/2020	01/13/2020	N/A	SB	WITNESS VOUCHER PRINTED FOR SUBPOENA 1320466
01/10/2020	01/10/2020	P1	NT	STATE'S SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY UNDER RULE 16, FILED.
01/10/2020	01/10/2020	P1	NT	NOTICE FILED BY P1 THE STATE OF OHIO NOTICE OF INTENT TO INTRODUCE "OTHER ACTS" EVIDENCE
01/09/2020	01/09/2020	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1323438)
01/09/2020	01/09/2020	N/A	SB	SHERIFF SERVICE FEES FOR SUBPOENA NUMBER 1320488, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16.50.
01/07/2020	01/07/2020	N/A	SB	GRAND JURY SUBPOENA ISSUED (1322980)
01/07/2020	01/07/2020	N/A	SC	TRIAL SCHEDULED FOR 01/13/2020 AT 09:00 AM IS CANCELLED. ATTORNEY: ANTHONY BAKER (0084620) REASON: TRIAL CONTINUED AT DEFT'S REQUEST 1/29/20 AT 9:00 A.M. .
01/07/2020	01/07/2020	N/A	SB	SHERIFF SERVICE FEES FOR SUBPOENA NUMBER 1320470, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8.50.
01/07/2020	01/07/2020	N/A	SB	SHERIFF SERVICE FEES FOR SUBPOENA NUMBER 1320468, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8.50.
01/07/2020	01/07/2020	N/A	SB	SHERIFF SERVICE FEES FOR SUBPOENA NUMBER 1320467, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8.50.
01/07/2020	01/07/2020	N/A	SB	SHERIFF SERVICE FEES FOR SUBPOENA NUMBER 1320466, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8.50.
01/07/2020	01/07/2020	N/A	SB	SHERIFF SERVICE FEES FOR SUBPOENA NUMBER 1320465, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8.50.
01/02/2020	01/02/2020	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1322199)
01/02/2020	01/02/2020	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1322201)
01/02/2020	01/02/2020	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1322200)
01/02/2020	01/02/2020	N/A	JE	DEFENDANT IN COURT. COUNSEL ANTHONY BAKER PRESENT. PROSECUTOR(S) JEFFREY M MAVER PRESENT. DEFT'S 1/2/20 MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE IS UNOPPOSED AND GRANTED FINAL PRETRIAL PREVIOUSLY SET FOR 01/07/2020 AT 09:00AM IS RESET FOR 01/23/2020 AT 09:00AM. TRIAL CONTINUED TO 01/29/2020 AT 09:00 AM AT THE REQUEST OF DEFENDANT. 01/02/2020 CPVYH 01/02/2020 13:52:29
01/02/2020	01/02/2020	P1	GP	SUPPLEMENTAL DISCOVERY RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY UNDER RULE 16, FILED.
01/02/2020	01/02/2020	D1	MO	MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE, FILED. 01/02/2020 - GRANTED
12/23/2019	12/23/2019	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1320488)
12/23/2019	12/23/2019	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1320470)
12/23/2019	12/23/2019	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1320468)
12/23/2019	12/23/2019	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1320467)
12/23/2019	12/23/2019	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1320466)
12/23/2019	12/23/2019	N/A	SB	STATE SUBPOENA ISSUED (1320465)
12/17/2019	12/17/2019	P1	NT	STATE'S SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY UNDER RULE 16, FILED.
12/16/2019	12/16/2019	D1	NT	DEFENDANT NOTICE OF HIS CLAIM OF AN AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
12/16/2019	12/16/2019	D1	NT	DEFENDANT'S SUPPLEMENTAL DISCOVERY REQUEST , FILED.
12/03/2019	12/03/2019	P1	NT	STATE'S SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY UNDER RULE 16, FILED.
12/02/2019	12/02/2019	P1	NT	STATE'S SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY UNDER RULE 16, FILED.
11/26/2019	11/26/2019	P1	NT	STATE'S SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY UNDER RULE 16, FILED.
11/18/2019	11/18/2019	N/A	JE	PROSECUTOR(S) JEFFREY MAVER PRESENT. ATTORNEY ANTHONY BAKER PRESENT FOR DEFT PRETRIAL HELD 11/18/2019. CASE

Date	Case No	Type	Status	Description
11/15/2019	11/15/2019	P1	NT	PROCEEDS AS SCHEDULED 11/18/2019 CPVYH 11/18/2019 13:48:17 STATE'S SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY UNDER RULE 16, FILED.
11/13/2019	11/13/2019	P1	NT	STATE'S DEMAND FOR DISCOVERY, FILED.
11/13/2019	11/13/2019	P1	NT	STATE'S RESPONSE TO DEFENDANT'S REQUEST FOR DISCOVERY AND BILL OF PARTICULARS UNDER RULE 16, FILED .
11/08/2019	11/08/2019	N/A	SB	GRAND JURY SUBPOENA ISSUED (1314255)
11/08/2019	11/08/2019	P1	NT	STATE'S NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF DEMAND FOR DISCOVERY FILED
11/07/2019	11/07/2019	N/A	JE	DEFENDANT IN COURT. COUNSEL ANTHONY BAKER PRESENT. PROSECUTOR(S) JEFFEREY MAVER PRESENT. PRETRIAL HELD 11/07/2019. PRETRIAL SET FOR 11/18/2019 AT 09:00 AM. FINAL PRETRIAL SET FOR 01/07/2020 AT 09:00 AM . TRIAL SET FOR 01/13/2020 AT 09:00 AM. 11/07/2019 CPVYH 11/07/2019 12:28:43
11/06/2019	11/06/2019	P1	BR	BRIEF IN OPPOSITION, FILED STATE'S BRIEF IN OPPOSITON TO DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR BOND REDUCTION
11/05/2019	11/06/2019	N/A	JE	PRETRIAL PREVIOUSLY SET FOR 11/06/2019 AT 09:00AM IS RESET FOR 11/07/2019 AT 09:00AM. AT THE REQUEST OF DEFENDANT. REASON FOR CONTINUANCE: ATTORNEY UNAVAILABLE 11/05/2019 CPVYH 11/05/2019 16:04:53
11/05/2019	11/05/2019	D1	MO	MOTION FOR BOND REDUCTION, FILED. MOTION FOR BOND REDUCTION 11/20/2019 - DENIED
11/05/2019	11/05/2019	D1	MO	MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE, FILED. MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE 11/06/2019 - UNOPPOSED AND GRANTED
11/05/2019	11/06/2019	N/A	JE	DEFT'S 11/5/19 MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE IS UNOPPOSED AND GRANTED. PRE-TRIAL RESET TO 11/7/19 AT 9:00 A.M. AT DEFT'S REQUEST 11/05/2019 CPVYH 11/05/2019 16:04:06
11/01/2019	11/01/2019	D1	NT	NOTICE OF APPEARANCE, MOTION FOR DISCOVERY, FILED.
11/01/2019	11/01/2019	N/A	CS	PRISONER IN COURT
11/01/2019	11/01/2019	N/A	JE	DEFENDANT PRESENT WITH COUNSEL. DEFENDANT RETAINED BAKER, ANTHONY AS COUNSEL. READING OF INDICTMENT WAIVED. TWENTY-FOUR HOUR SERVICE WAIVED. DEFENDANT PLEAD NOT GUILTY TO INDICTMENT. BOND SET AT 100,000.00 DOLLARS. BOND TYPE: CASH/SURETY/PROP.. BOND CONDITIONS: COURT SUPERVISED RELEASE, GPS EXCLUSION / INCLUSION MONITORING, NO CONTACT WITH VICTIM. JUDGE FUERST, NANCY A (322) ASSIGNED (MANUALLY). FIRST PRETRIAL SET FOR 11/06/2019 AT 09:00 AM IN COURT ROOM JC15B JUDGE NANCY A. FUERST.
10/29/2019	10/30/2019	N/A	SH	SHERIFF SERVICE OF INDICTMENT
10/29/2019	10/30/2019	N/A	GP	ARRAIGNMENT SCHEDULED FOR 11/01/2019.
10/29/2019	10/29/2019	N/A	CR	INDICTED ORIGINAL ON 10/29/2019
10/29/2019	10/30/2019	N/A	SF	LEGAL RESEARCH
10/29/2019	10/30/2019	N/A	SF	COURT SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND
10/29/2019	10/30/2019	N/A	SF	CRIME STOPPERS
10/29/2019	10/30/2019	N/A	SF	COMPUTER FEE
10/29/2019	10/30/2019	N/A	SF	CLERK FEE
10/25/2019	10/25/2019	N/A	SB	GRAND JURY SUBPOENA ISSUED (1311849)
10/22/2019	10/22/2019	N/A	CR	CASE INFORMATION ENTERED
09/29/2019	10/22/2019	N/A	CR	DATE OF OFFENSE 09/29/2019

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[Website Questions or Comments.](#)

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# **EXHIBIT B**



112477974

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

THE STATE OF OHIO  
Plaintiff

DENAYNE DAVIDSON-DIXON  
Defendant

Case No: CR-19-645234-A

Judge: NANCY A FUERST

INDICT: 2903.11 FELONIOUS ASSAULT  
2919.25 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**JOURNAL ENTRY**

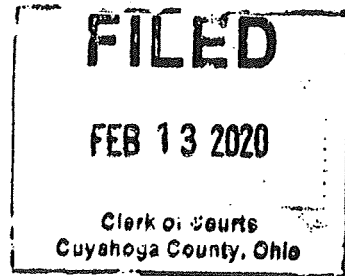
COURT REPORTER SUZANNE VADNAL PRESENT.  
CONTEMPT HEARING HELD ON THE RECORD.  
CONTEMNOR ANTHONY BAKER, ESQ PRESENT.  
COURT INCORPORATES ITS PRIOR REMARKS PLACED ON THE RECORD ON 2/3/20.  
ANTHONY BAKER, ESQ IS FOUND TO BE IN (DIRECT) CONTEMPT.  
FINE \$500.00 PAID WITHIN 7 DAYS OF THIS ORDER TO THE CLERK OF COURTS, CRIMINAL DIVISION.  
CONTEMNOR FURTHER INSTRUCTED TO LEGIBLY HANDWRITE LANGUAGE ATTACHED IN EXHIBIT A.

02/13/2020  
CPINF 02/13/2020 13:15:55

*N. A. Fuerst 2/13/20*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



HEAR  
02/13/2020

State v. Davidson-Dixon CR 645234

Contempt hearing for defense counsel: Anthony Baker, Esq. (#0084620)

While seated in the courtroom, you are ordered to legibly handwrite the following twenty-five (25) times:

I WILL NOT ENGAGE IN CONDUCT THAT IS PREJUDICIAL TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE OR IN ANY OTHER CONDUCT THAT ADVERSELY REFLECTS ON MY FITNESS TO PRACTICE LAW.

*Prof. Con. R. 8.4 (d) & (h)*

I SHALL NOT ENGAGE IN CONDUCT INTENDED TO DISRUPT A TRIBUNAL OR ENGAGE IN UNDIGNIFIED OR DISCOURTEOUS CONDUCT THAT IS DEGRADING TO A TRIBUNAL.

*Prof. Con. R. 3.5 (a)(5) & (a)(6)*

*not  
2/13/20*

*EXHIBIT A*

Prof Con. R. 3.5(a)(5) & (a)(6)

1. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
2. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
3. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
4. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
5. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
6. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

2-13-20

7. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

8. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

9. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

10. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

11. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

12. I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

13 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

14 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

15 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

16 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

17 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

18 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

- 19 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
- 20 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
- 21 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
- 22 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
- 23 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
- 24 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
- 25 I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal
- 2-13-20 I apologize!

Bar 21320 Prof. Con. R. 8. 4(d) & (h)

1 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law

2 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law

3 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law

4 I will will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law

5 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law



6 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

7 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

8 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

9 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

10 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

- 11. I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.
- 12. I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.
- 13. I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.
- 14. I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.
- 15. I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

16 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

17 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

18 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

19 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

20 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

21 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law.

Abh 2-13-20

22 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law

23 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law

24 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law

25 I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law

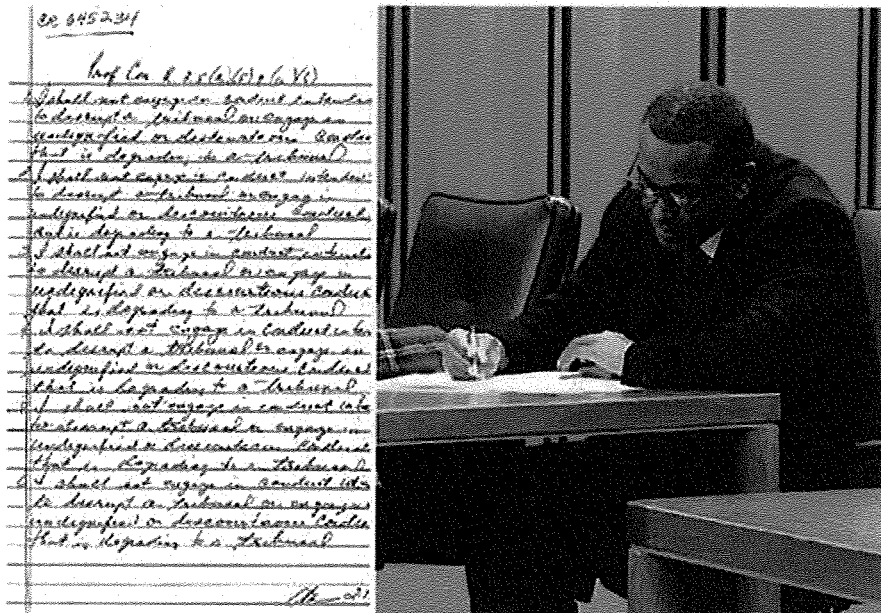
Thank you!

Oct 2-13-76

# EXHIBIT C

# Judge doles out Bart Simpson-esque punishment to lawyer held in contempt for acting out at trial in Cleveland

Posted Feb 15, 2020



Defense attorney Anthony Baker, right, writing out two sentences 25 times promising not to act out in court after Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judge Nancy Fuerst held him in contempt. Left is the first page of a copy of his writings that were filed with the court.

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shares

By Cory Shaffer, [cleveland.com](http://cleveland.com)

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- A local attorney who left the defense table in front of a jury to protest a judge's order earlier this month got a Bart Simpson-esque dose of punishment on Thursday when the judge ordered him to write out 25 times that he will not engage in discourteous and disruptive conduct.

Common Pleas Court Judge Nancy Fuerst found Anthony Baker in contempt for what she called “reprehensible” behavior during the final day of trial of a former East Cleveland police officer who was ultimately convicted of assaulting his wife.

Fuerst also slapped the Lorain-based attorney with a \$500 fine.

Fuerst made Baker write out two sentences, not on a chalkboard as in the opening montage in *The Simpsons*, but on a piece of paper with a pen:

- I will not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice or in any other conduct that adversely reflects on my fitness to practice law
- I shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal or engage in undignified or discourteous conduct that is degrading to a tribunal

The sentences included citations to specific rules of professional conduct for lawyers.

*You can see a copy of the notes in the document viewer below.*

Baker said in an interview Friday that he came to Thursday’s hearing expecting to serve time in jail. He brought no briefcase or laptop, and even left his house keys behind.

“She’s right, I was wrong,” Baker said. “I should have not taken that stand. I’m grateful for the penalty that I did get.”

But Baker said he stood by his reasoning for what he did.

“I was totally wrong in how I protested. I don’t think I was wrong in what I was fighting for,” he said.

His defendant, Denayne Davidson-Dixon, broke multiple bones in his wife’s face after an argument broke out at their home last summer and was charged with felonious assault and domestic violence. Davidson-Dixon was fired from his job with East Cleveland police and served about 18 months in prison after he pleaded guilty to assaulting a man he arrested in a case that was featured on the popular podcast “Serial.”

At the end of the trial, Baker asked Fuerst to instruct the jury on Ohio’s self-defense laws before closing arguments and jury deliberations, according to a copy of a court transcript. Baker argued that Davidson-Dixon defended himself after his wife struck him, and that denying jurors the ability to hear laws on self-defense when considering the felonious assault would amount to an unfair trial and a certain conviction. Fuerst denied the motion, but agreed to allow the jury to consider the lesser-included charge of aggravated assault.

Baker disagreed with the ruling, and decided to stage a protest, he told [cleveland.com](http://cleveland.com) Friday.

He repeatedly sought to stop the trial from proceeding after Fuerst's ruling. He told the judge he "physically" could not continue, and suggested that he would go sit in the back of the courtroom.

Fuerst, who noted that she had told Baker previously she had planned to deny his request, refused to delay the proceedings and accused Baker of playing games.

"This isn't a game," he said. "This is his life."

Fuerst ordered Baker to sit down at the defense table and be quiet, then ordered the jury back into the courtroom, the transcript shows. She began reading the instructions but stopped after just a few sentences because Baker -- in front of the jury -- got up from the defense table during the jury instructions, left his client sitting there and walked into the holding cell where jailed inmates are kept as they await court hearings, according to the transcript.

She asked deputies to "bring the attorney back out here," and then stopped the proceedings and dismissed the jury for a lunch break.

She called Baker in and accused him of throwing a tantrum and acting unprofessionally several times throughout the trial and told him she would be deal with "a contempt issue" after the trial was over.

Jurors found Davidson-Dixon guilty of aggravated assault and domestic violence. Fuerst sentenced him to 18 months in prison for the attack, and an additional four months for violating the terms of his parole on his previous conviction.

Thursday's contempt hearing lasted less than two minutes.

Baker on Friday denied walking into the holding cell. He said he got up from the table during jury instructions and walked a few feet away, near a large digital screen that is used to display evidence. He said the act was meant to protest Fuerst's decision and was an effort to stop the proceeding.

But he denied ever leaving the courtroom in front of the jury.

"I moved away from the table so it was clear I'm not participating," he said.

Baker said Fuerst has always been a fair judge, and he did deserve punishment because he was out of line. He said it found it strange sit before a judge in a seat where many of his clients sat waiting to learn his own fate.

"It won't happen again, that's for sure," he said.