

## Report of the Commission on Judicial Business

The General Synod's Commission on Judicial Business (CJB) has eight members, one representing each of the regional synods. Regional synods are required to nominate laypersons and ministers in alternating six-year cycles to ensure that the commission's membership includes at least three laypersons and three ministers. A broad knowledge of and background in the structure, government, and function of the Reformed Church in America (RCA) is required of all members, and legal training and experience is required of lay members. The responsibilities of the CJB are to carry out the responsibilities assigned to it in the RCA's Disciplinary and Judicial Procedures (*Book of Church Order*, Chapter 2).

Since the 2022 session of the General Synod, the CJB has not received any complaints, charges, or appeals that required any action on the commission's part. It did receive a communication from Ms. Joanne Lansing, which appeared intended to be an appeal. The commission determined that it was out of order and communicated its determination to Ms. Lansing. Thereafter Ms. Lansing asked the CJB to reconsider its determination. The CJB denied the request, and at the same time clarified its earlier determination by noting and correcting a typographical error in its earlier communication to her.

Communication was received from the Regional Synod of New York regarding the "Brooklyn Classis Appeal" section of the commission's report to the 2022 General Synod. It was discussed, and the commission agreed to place this communication in the commission's archives to be a voice for future commission members to consider should similar scenarios rise again.

The commission also received a communication from the General Synod's Commission on Race and Ethnicity regarding the antiracism policy that it had submitted to the 2022 General Synod. The CJB voted to adopt the policy in the form that appears in RE 22-1 (*Minutes of General Synod 2022*, pp. 235-236) and agreed that any orientation materials for new CJB members should include the text of the policy.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kendra Van Houten, moderator