

IN THE ALABAMA COURT OF THE JUDICIARY

In the Matter of:

DOROTHEA BATISTE,
Jefferson County Circuit Judge

Case No.



**MOTION TO RECUSE JUDGE LAURA PETRO AND ANY OTHER
JUDGES CLOSE TO FORMER JUDGE SCOTT VOWELL**

COMES now Jefferson County Circuit Court Judge Dorothea Batiste and hereby moves this Honorable Court to order Judge Laura Petro and any other members of the Alabama Court of the Judiciary ("AJIC"), who are personally or professionally close to former Jefferson County presiding judge to recuse themselves from serving on the panel of judges now sitting on the Alabama Court of the Judiciary. As grounds therefore, Judge Batiste shows:

1. It is well known that, until very recently, Judge Scott Vowell was himself sitting as a member of the Alabama Court of the Judiciary. As such, Judge Vowell was able to make close friendships, personally and professionally, with the other panelists, sitting on said Court of the Judiciary. Some of the those panelists are very likely sitting on the current Alabama Court of the Judiciary, which will be sitting in judgement of Dorothea Batiste.

2. Without a doubt the primary antagonist against Dorothea Batiste, and the driving force behind almost all, if not all, of the multitude of complaints against her, is Scott Vowell. His name even appears as the leading complainant on most, if not all, of the Complaints against Judge Batiste that the AJIC was investigating.

3. It is also well known that Judge Laura Petro of the Jefferson County Circuit Court, Criminal Division, was especially close, personally and professionally, to the former presiding judge Scott Vowell of the Jefferson County Circuit Court.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, premises considered, Judge Batiste hereby moves this Honorable Court to order Judge Laura Petro and any other members of the Alabama Court of the Judiciary ("AJIC"), who are personally or professionally close to former Jefferson County presiding judge, Scott Vowell, to recuse themselves from serving on the panel of judges now sitting on the Alabama Court of the Judiciary.

Respectfully,

Judge Batiste

By: 
Julian McPhillips (MCP004)
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OF COUNSEL:

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have served a copy of the foregoing upon Griffin Sikes, Counsel for the AJIC, by hand-delivery on this the 13th day of June, 2013.



Julian K. McPhillips