

Judge submits resignation

Joseph Brown | Posted: Thursday, March 24, 2016 10:59 am

Sixth District Judge Eric Clifford resigned effective Wednesday.

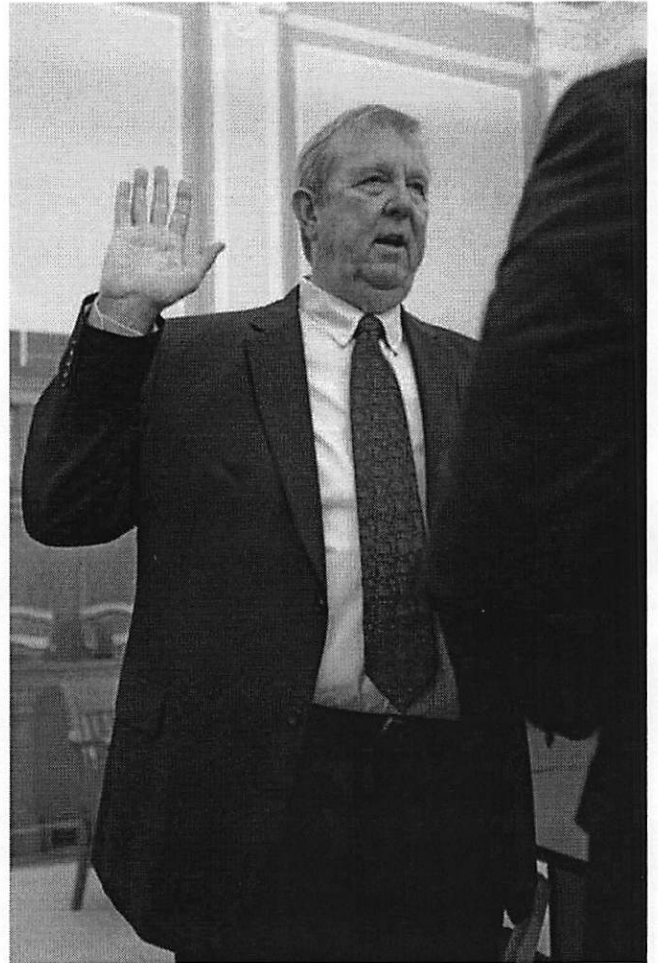
According to a spokesman with the governor's office, Clifford, who served Lamar and Red River counties, submitted his resignation Wednesday.

Clifford did not return a phone call.

The judge came under fire in September when he was issued a public reprimand with 11 complaints filed against him for misconduct. The State Commission on Judicial Conduct stated in several judicial cases heard in Clifford's court, the judge made statements about the cases outside of court and had "inappropriate" contact with defendants.

Clifford did not run for re-election in the 2016 Republican primary. Local lawyer Wes Tidwell won the Republican primary for the 6th District bench and will face Democratic candidate Gary Waite in the November general election. The newly elected judge takes office Jan. 1.

Appointments to fill the vacant position are conducted through Gov. Greg Abbot's office, according to Texas Judicial Branch Judge Mary Murphy.



Eric Clifford

Sixth District Judge Eric Clifford stepped down Wednesday from several upcoming criminal cases.