Justice Eakin Suspended Over Emails

Court panel said the messages had led to doubts about Pa. judiciary's integrity.

By Angela Couloumbis HARRISBURG BUREAU

HARRISBURG — The state's judicial ethics tribunal on Tuesday suspended Supreme Court Justice J. Michael Eakin for his involvement in the "Porngate" scandal, saying his continued presence on the bench harmed the public's trust in the judi-

The Court of Judicial Discipline said Eakin sent and received offensive email messages, some containing images of naked women and jokes mocking minorities, women, and others, that have "tainted the Pennsylvania judiciary in the eyes of the public."

"The integrity of the Pennsylvania judiciary has been and continues to be subject to disrespect," a three-

judge panel ruled.

The suspension will remain in effect until the court decides at trial whether Eakin, a Republican, violated judicial conduct rules when he exchanged the emails.

In the interim, he will continue to receive his annual \$203,409 salary as well as benefits.

Eakin's lawyer, William Costopou-

los, said Tuesday that the justice was disappointed in the decision, but added, "We respect the process and will be ready for trial."

"Hopefully, it will be sooner rather than later," Costopoulos said.

Eakin's suspension followed a tumultuous year for the state's highest court, one that saw another justice,

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Michael Eakin will receive pay and benefits.

A new plan on use of force

Ramsey calls for state police to investigate shootings by officers.

By Aubrey Whelan and Dylan Purcell STAFF WRITERS

Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles H. Ramsey said Tuesday that he wants the Pennsvlvania State Police to take over investigations when city officers shoot people. His remarks came during a

news conference at which U.S. Justice Department officials released their first progress report on their review of Philadelphia police's deadly-force policies, and said the city has made "significant progress." But some of the changes rec-

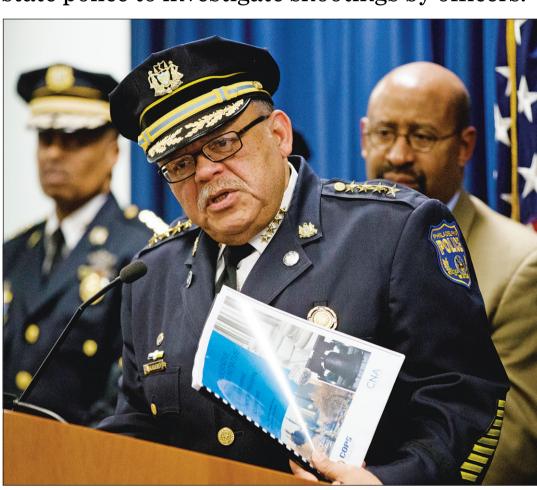
ommended by the federal Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) are unlikely to happen without the cooperation of Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 5, the city's powerful police union.

And union president John Mc-Nesby said Tuesday that he was prepared for a fight.

"It's not that we're opposed to change, it's that they don't include us in anything," he said. "They just shove it down your

Details on the role the state police would have in police-involved shootings are still under discussion, said Ramsey, who is

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Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles H. Ramsey refers to the Justice Department's six-month assessment report in his hand as Mayor Nutter listens. MATT ROURKE /AP

CAMPAIGN 2016 | THE RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

Cruz running hard in the South

Texas senator stumps with an eye on the March "SEC" primaries.

By Thomas Fitzgerald POLITICS WRITER

BLOOMINGDALE, Ga. — Ted Cruz painted a dark word picture of a nation bankrupt at home and mocked abroad, its values and constitutional rights eroding. But things are about to change, he thun-

"Everywhere across this country, people are waking up," the Texas Republican senator told a crowd of about 1,000 standing in a field at Ottawa Farms, who cheered every other sentence. "There's an awakening, and there's a spirit of revival sweeping this land."

Cruz was in the middle of a 12-day

barnstorming tour through many of the Southern states that hold primaries March 1 in the so-called SEC primary, which his campaign has focused on as friendly ground after the gauntlet of early-voting states. He has been drawing big, raucous crowds as he threatens to overtake

See CRUZ on A3

INSIDE

- ► Christie queried on Muslims, Obamacare, and abortion. **A2.**
- ► Trump uses crude language to mock Hillary Clinton. A3.

New trial ordered for Lynn

Landmark verdict on child sex abuse by priests is overturned for a second time.

> By Jeremy Roebuck STAFF WRITER

A Pennsylvania appellate court on Tuesday ordered a new trial for Msgr. William J. Lynn, overturning for a second time a landmark verdict that was the first conviction nationwide of a Catholic Church official for covering up child sex abuse by priests.

A three-judge Superior Court panel found that Lynn's 2012 conviction had been tainted by prosecutors' presentation of nearly two dozen examples of the Philadelphia Archdiocese's failure to handle pedophilia within its ranks. Lynn, however, was only charged in connection with his supervision of two priests.

Such evidence, said Judge Emeritus John T. Bender, writing for the majority, was "unfairly prejudicial" and effectively turned Lynn into a scapegoat for the wider sins of the church. Some of those crimes predated by decades Lynn's tenure as the archdiocesan official in charge of handling sex-abuse com-

The court's decision again Attorney Seth Williams has touted as a historic prosecution, and raised questions about the 64-year-old cleric's future, two years into his three- to six-year sentence on child endanger-

ment charges. His lawyer, Thomas A. Bergstrom, said he intends once again to seek Lynn's release from prison.

"In our view, the evidence about other priests had nothing whatsoever to do with Msgr. Lynn and the allegations against him," Bergstrom said.

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ARLIN M. ADAMS | 1921-2015

Leading jurist and adviser to politicians

By Chris Mondics STAFF WRITER

Arlin M. Adams, 94, of Elkins Park, a former judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and a leading figure in the Philadel-

phia legal community for much of his life, died at his home early Tuesday. During many de-

cades as a respected appellate federal judge, litigator, and, at times, political operative, Judge Adams was frequently in close contact with state and national leaders. Three presi-

dents considered nominating him for a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court. For a time in the late 1960s, Judge Adams was a political

ally of President Richard M.

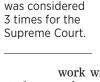
Nixon, who put him on a short

list for the Supreme Court, a seat that eventually went to now-retired Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist. He also was close to former

Pennsylvania Gov. William W.

Scranton and to Walter H. Annenberg, a friend and political supporter of President Ronald Reagan. "He was a treasure,

he really was," said Gaetan Alfano, the incoming chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association. "Anyone who has read his opinions knows that he is intellectually honest. The scholarship that went into his opinions was extraordinary,



Arlin M. Adams

and nothing about his work was results-oriented." As a lawyer and a judge throughout much of the 20th

century, Judge Adams had a

See ADAMS on A8

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Americans drinking themselves to death

The rate of fatalities likely induced by alcohol shot up by 37 percent from 2002 to 2014.

By Christopher Ingraham

Alcohol is killing Americans at a rate not seen in at least 35 years, according to new federal data. Last year, more than 30,000 Americans died from alcohol-induced causes, including alcohol poisoning and cirrhosis, which is primarily caused by alcohol use.

In 2014, there were 9.6 deaths from these alcohol-induced

causes per 100,000 people, up 37 percent since 2002. This tally of alcohol-induced fatalities excludes deaths from drunken driving, other accidents, and homicides committed under the influence of alco-

hol. If those were included, the

annual toll of deaths directly or

indirectly caused by alcohol

would be closer to 90,000, ac-

cording to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In recent years, public health

experts have focused extensively on overdose deaths from heroin and prescription painkillers, which have risen rapidly since the early 2000s.

But in 2014, more people died from alcohol-induced causes (30,722) than from overdoses of prescription painkillers and heroin combined (28,647), according to the CDC — although total drug deaths are far higher.

Patterns vary widely from state to state, for reasons that are not always obvious. Alcoholrelated death rates in the Philadelphia region are far below the national average - New Jersey's (6.2 per 100,000 residents) was third-lowest in the United States last year, while Pennsylvania's (6.5) was sixth-

lowest. Yet the same set of federal statistics show that Pennsylvania had the sixth-highest rate of drug overdose deaths (21.4 per

See **ALCOHOL** on A5