## JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

TELEPHONE: (802) 786-1063 FACSIMILE: (802) 786-1161



P.O. Box 310 RUTLAND, VT 05702-0310

Andrew H. Maass, Esq. Chair

December 15, 2017

## **CLOSURE REPORT OF THE VERMONT JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD**

Re: Docket No.: 17.038

This Complaint arises out of a Small Claims debt collection matter where the Judge urged that the interest be waived by the Plaintiff. The allegations included that the Judge became hostile and unfairly prejudicial. If founded, the allegations could be violations of Canon 1A (a judge shall uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary); Canon 3B(4) (a judge shall be patient, dignified and courteous to litigants and lawyers); and 3B(5) (a judge shall perform his or her duties without bias or prejudice.

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an initial inquiry including a review of the docket history of the matter and listening to the audio recording of the hearing involved in the Complaint. To the extent the Complaint alleges ethical impropriety or a violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct, the Board has determined that the Complaint is unfounded and there is no cause for further proceedings. *Rules of the Supreme Court for the Disciplinary Control of Judges*, Rule 11.

Accordingly, the Complaint in Docket No. 17.038 is DISMISSED.

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Andrew H. Maass, Chair