## JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD



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> Andrew H. Maass, Esq. Chair

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## CLOSURE REPORT OF THE VERMONT JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Re: Docket No.: 18.005

This Complaint is the result of Complainant's disagreement that the Court had jurisdiction over Complainant, and that two separate judges showed bias in rulings and in conduct at an arraignment held in a criminal matter.

Any question of jurisdiction is a matter for an appeal, not under the jurisdiction of this Board. "The Board shall not function as an appellate court to review the decisions of a court or judge nor exercise superintending or administrative control over determinations of courts or judges." *Rules for Disciplinary Control of Judges*, Rule 6(18).

Complainant also stated that a decision authored by one of the judges was threatening in tone and that specific wording used by the other judge showed bias against Complainant.

If founded, these complaints would be in violation of Canon 3(B)(4) (A judge should be patient, dignified and courteous to litigants...) and (5): (A judge shall perform judicial duties without bias or prejudice).

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an initial inquiry, including a review of the docket, the referenced decision and listening to the audio of each of the hearings. 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. 18.005 is DISMISSED.

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Andrew H. Malass, Chair