

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD



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

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

ANDREW H. MAASS, ESQ.
CHAIR

November 24, 2020

CLOSURE REPORT OF THE VERMONT JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Re: Docket No.: 20.014

This Complaint is the result of a hearing on a Temporary Stalking Order that involved two different judges. Complainant states the first Judge had already decided the outcome before hearing from witnesses, that the Judge did not allow witnesses to testify, and that the Judge's demeanor was lacking in respect to Complainant. The Complaint also has allegations that the second Judge present should have intervened.

If substantiated, these allegations could be violations of

Canon 1, Rule 1.2: "A judge shall act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary, and shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety."

Canon 2, Rule 2.2: "A judge shall uphold and apply the law and shall perform all duties of judicial office fairly and impartially."

Canon 2, Rule 2.4(A): "A judge shall accord to every person who has a legal interest in a proceeding, or that person's lawyer, the right to be heard according to law."

Canon 2, Rule 2.8(B): "A judge shall be patient, dignified, and courteous to litigants, jurors, witnesses, lawyers, court staff, court officials, and others with whom the judge deals in an official capacity. . . ."

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an initial inquiry including a thorough review of the docket, and the recordings of the hearing. 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. 20.014 is DISMISSED.

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By: 
Andrew H. Maass, Chair