

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD



TELEPHONE: (802) 786-1063

P.O. BOX 310
RUTLAND, VT 05701-0310

BARBARA R. BLACKMAN, ESQ.
CHAIR

July 11, 2023

CLOSURE REPORT OF THE VERMONT JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Re: Docket No.: 22.014-a, b, c

This Complaint is the result of a juvenile custody issue where three Complainants allege the Judge did not maintain order and decorum and were discourteous to the parties by abruptly ending a hearing. If proven, the allegations could potentially be violations of Canon 2, Rule 2.2 and 2.6. These complaints were consolidated because each arose from the same set of facts.

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an Initial Inquiry, including a thorough review of all filings in the case, listening to the audio of each hearing held, conducted an analysis of the allegations and found no ethical impropriety or violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

The Board found that Complainant was dissatisfied with the outcome of the litigation, which is a matter for an appellate court, not this Board. **Rule 6(17) of the Rules for Disciplinary Control of Judges states:**

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.

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*, Rules 6(17) & 7(1).

Accordingly, the Complaints in Docket No. 22.014-a, 22.014-b and 22.014-c are each DISMISSED.

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By: 
Barbara R. Blackman, Chair