## JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

THE COLUMN

P.O. BOX 310 Rutland, VT 05702-0310

Andrew H. Maass, Esq. Chair

March 6, 2017

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

Re: Docket No.: 17.002

This Complaint is the result of a small claims hearing which the Complainant appealed to the Superior Court. The Judge in the appeal recused himself before the hearing because he knew one of the parties. The Complaint included allegations that the Judge involved in the appeal was the same Judge that handled the original case in Small Claims, and that he should have recused himself at the beginning. The Complainant did not understand that appeals are handled by different Judges. A letter was sent to the Complainant explaining this, and giving 30 days to supplement the Complaint. No supplement was received.

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an initial inquiry. To the extent the Complaint alleges ethical impropriety of 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. 17.002 is DISMISSED.

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Bv:

Andrew H. Maass, Chair

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