

## JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD



TELEPHONE: (802) 777-9198

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

BARBARA R. BLACKMAN, ESQ.  
CHAIR

---

June 20, 2022

### CLOSURE REPORT OF THE VERMONT JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Re: Docket No.: 22.016

---

This Complaint contained allegations of violation of Canon 2, asserting the Judge held hearings in two matters without notification to all parties, and violation of Canon 2, Rule 8(B) – a judge should be “patient, dignified and courteous to litigants, jurors, witnesses, lawyers, and others with whom the judge deals in an official capacity[.]”

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an initial inquiry, including review of the dockets involved, listening to the audio of the hearings, and review of a response from the Judge. The Board found no violation Canon 2 as a result of the hearings but did find that the Judge’s tone and demeanor at the hearing was not in compliance with Canon 2, Rule 8(B), and the response from the Judge did not acknowledge or address this issue.

Given the above, the Board found that sufficient probable cause existed to issue a Non-Public Written Warning under Rule 8(2) of the *Rules of the Supreme Court for the Disciplinary Control of Judges* after finding there was not a sufficient pattern or practice of this conduct to merit further discipline.

In accordance with Rule 8(2), one or more written warnings may be considered in determining the appropriate level of any later sanction or action.

Accordingly, the Complaint in Docket No. 22.016 is DISMISSED, and a Non-Public Written Warning has been issued to the Judge.

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

By: 

Barbara R. Blackman, Chair