

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

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ANDREW H. MAASS, ESQ.
CHAIR

June 14, 2017

CLOSURE REPORT OF THE VERMONT JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Re: Docket No.: 17.013

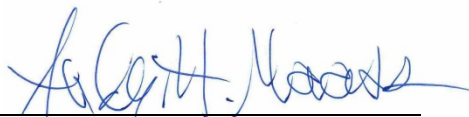
This Complaint is the result of the attorney Complainant's view that the Judge had shown "disdain" and made "snide comments" regarding the Complainant; that the Judge improperly filed a Professional Conduct Board Complaint against Complainant; that the Judge did not recuse from a number of matters after motions for recusal were made; that the Judge denied certain motions despite the law; that the Judge unnecessarily denied summary judgment for failure to follow V.R.C.P. 56; and, that the Judge is biased in favor of tenants in landlord-tenant actions. If probable cause was found, these would be violations of Canons 3D(2), 1, 2, 3B(5) and 4A(1-3)

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an initial inquiry including review of the extensive material filed with the Complaint, the docket entries regarding the cases mentioned in the Complaint, and a review of the response by the Judge to the Complaint. The Board found that denial of certain motions was well-grounded procedurally, that denial of other motions are properly matters for appeal and not a violation of any Canon, and found no evidence of ridiculing, dismissiveness or ill-will in the Judge's orders regarding recusal, or in denying other motions.

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. 17.013 is DISMISSED.

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

By: 
Andrew H. Maass, Chair