

# JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD



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ANDREW H. MAASS, ESQ.  
CHAIR

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February 25, 2019

## CLOSURE REPORT OF THE VERMONT JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Re: Docket No.: 18.027

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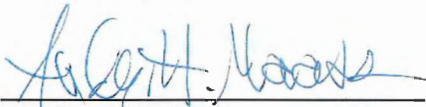
This Complaint is the result of a long-running civil case. The allegations included that the judge was biased against Complainant due to disability, that the judge retaliated against Complainant and that the judge had ex-parte communications with the opposite parties.

If founded, these allegations would be violations of Canon 3B(5) "A judge shall perform judicial duties without bias or prejudice; 3B(4): "A judge should be patient, dignified and courteous to litigants..."; and 3B(7) "A judge shall not initiate, permit or consider ex parte communications..."

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an initial inquiry including extensive review of the docket in this matter, listening to the audio of hearings held, and review of a response by the judge. 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. 18.027 is DISMISSED.

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

By:   
Andrew H. Maass, Chair