

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

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ANDREW H. MAASS, ESQ.
CHAIR

July 18, 2019

CLOSURE REPORT OF THE VERMONT JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Re: Docket No.: 19.008


This Complaint is the result of an eviction case in which the Complainant was *pro se*. The Complaint contained allegations of violations of Canon 1(A) (A judge should participate in establishing, maintaining, and enforcing high standards of conduct), 2(A) (A judge shall respect and comply with the law; promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary) and 3B(7) (A judge shall not initiate, permit, or consider *ex parte* communications). Additional allegations included claimed that the Judge's court room demeanor and "arrogance" also violated the Canons.

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an initial inquiry which included a thorough review of the docket entries, and listening to the audio of the entire trial. The audio reflects that the Judge was patient, and guided Complainant through the process. The Complainant thanked the Judge for the assistance, but it was clear from the audio that Complainant did not understand why evidence was considered hearsay and could not be admitted into evidence.

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. 19.008 is DISMISSED.

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

By: 

Andrew H. Maass, Chair