

# JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

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Steven A. Adler, Esq.  
Chair

June 14, 2013

## Closure Report of the Vermont Judicial Conduct Board

Re: Docket No. 13.004

This complaint arises from a contested divorce hearing involving a claim for short term spousal maintenance and a claim for a lump sum payment. The Complainant is the mother of defendant who represented her daughter's interests in court through a power-of attorney. As such, Complainant appeared in court while her daughter was permitted to participate by phone from Iraq, and later by phone although back in Vermont. Complainant alleged violations of Canon 3B (4) & (5), alleging that the judge was biased and had prejudged the case. Complainant further felt that she was being chastised by the court regarding filing of certain forms.

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an initial inquiry including a review of the pleadings and orders filed by the parties in the Court and the audio recordings of the hearings at which the allegedly unethical conduct occurred. 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.

The Complaint in Docket No. 13.004 is DISMISSED.

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By: Steven A. Adler