

# JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

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Steven A. Adler, Esq.  
Chair

October 5, 2016

## Closure Report of the Vermont Judicial Conduct Board

Re: Docket No. 16.029

This Complaint is a criminal court matter involving drug trafficking. Complainant, a lawyer involved in the case, alleges with inflammatory and emotionally charged language that the Judge was racially biased and points to one turn of a phrase during some fifty pages of transcript at a sentencing hearing. The conviction was later overturned on appeal.

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an initial inquiry including a detailed review of the pleadings and orders filed by the parties in the Court, as well as a review of the transcript of the hearing. The Board has also considered that there is absolutely no historical evidence to suggest any racial bias on behalf of this 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.

The Complaint in Docket No. 16.029 is DISMISSED.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven A. Adler".

By: Steven A. Adler