



James M. Hivner, Clerk

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## THE TENNESSEE **BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

February 18, 2016

511 Union Street Suite 600 Nashville, TN 37219

MEMBERS OF THE TENNESSEE **BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT** 

Chris Craft Chairperson

Timothy R. Discenza Disciplinary Counsel

Patrick J. McHale Assistant Disciplinary Counsel

Kenny Armstrong Miles Burdine Angelita B. Dalton Joe F. Fowlkes Tas Gardner Dee Gay J. Ronald Hickman Chris A. Hodges Thomas W. Lawless Christy R. Little Larry J. Logan Norma Ogle Ward Phillips

J. Michael Sharp Dwight E. Stokes Russell Humphrey Chief Clerk of the Senate Office of the Chief Clerk State Capitol, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Chief Clerks:

Joe McCord Chief Clerk of the House Office of the Chief Clerk State Capitol, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Nashville, TN 37243

Please find enclosed the statistical report of the Board of Judicial Conduct covering filings and dispositions for the month of January, 2016, as mandated by Tenn. Code Ann. § 17-5-207.

Sincerely.

CHRIS CRAFT **Board Chair** 

CC/bep

## BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT MONTHLY REPORT FOR JANUARY 2016

ADM2016-00040 FILED

The number and category of complaints  $OPENED^1$ :

	<b>THIS</b>	THIS FISCAL
<u>N</u>	MONTH	<u>YEAR</u>
A) Failure to comply with law:	19	177
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:	1	19
C) Discourtesy:		8
D) Abuse of office:		2
E) Delay:		14
F) Ex parte communications:		4
G) Disability:	0	0
H) Political violation:		1
I) Recusal:	- 2	21
J) Miscellaneous:		<u>1</u>
TOTAL	29	247

The number and category of complaints CLOSED:

V	<u>THIS</u> IONTH	THIS FISCAL YEAR
A) Failure to comply with law:	20	159
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:	2	26
C) Discourtesy:	2	5
D) Abuse of office:	0	1
E) Delay:	0	11
F) Ex parte communications:	0	2
G) Disability:	0	1
H) Political violation:	1	1
I) Recusal:	4	18
J) Miscellaneous:	<u>1</u>	_1
TOTAL	30	225

<sup>1.</sup> A single complaint naming several judges is counted as a separate complaint against each judge. A complaint whose allegations encompass more than one category is listed under the most serious category alleged.

## DISPOSITION of the complaints closed by CATEGORY:

	<u>THIS</u> MONTH	THIS FISCAL YEAR
A) Failure to comply with law:		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	20	147
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	0	5
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	0	3
Dismissal with warning	0	1
Dismissal after full investigation	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement	0	0
Private reprimand	0	0
Private censure	0	0
Public reprimand	0	2
Public censure	0	0
Other	0	0
Retired complaint, no longer a judge		1
Suspension	0	0
Recommendation of removal from office	e <u>0</u>	_0
TOTAL	20	159
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:	THIS MONTH	THIS FISCAL YEAR
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	<u>MONTH</u> g 0	YEAR 1
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH g 0	<u>YEAR</u> 1 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	MONTH g 0 2	YEAR  1 0 25
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH g 0 2 0	<u>YEAR</u> 1 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH g 0 0 2 0	YEAR  1 0 25
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  g 0 2 0 0 0	YEAR  1 0 25 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  g 0 2 0 0 0 0	YEAR  1 0 25 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  g 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	YEAR  1 0 25 0 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  g 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	YEAR  1 0 25 0 0 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  g 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	YEAR  1 0 25 0 0 0 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis Dismissal with warning Dismissal after full investigation Private reprimand Private censure Public reprimand Other	MONTH  g 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	YEAR  1 0 25 0 0 0 0 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis Dismissal with warning Dismissal after full investigation Deferred discipline agreement Private reprimand Private censure Public reprimand Public censure Cother Retired complaint, no longer a judge	MONTH  g 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	YEAR  1 0 25 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  g 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	YEAR  1 0 25 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis Dismissal with warning Dismissal after full investigation Deferred discipline agreement Private reprimand Private censure Public reprimand Public censure Cother Retired complaint, no longer a judge	MONTH  g 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	YEAR  1 0 25 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

<u>,                                     </u>	<u>rhis</u>	THIS FISCAL
<u>M</u>	<u>ONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
C) Discourtesy:		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	- 0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	- 0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis		4
Dismissal with warning	- 0	1
Dismissal after full investigation	. 0	0
Deferred discipline agreement	. 0	0
Private reprimand		0
Private censure	. 0	0
Public reprimand	- 0	0
Public censure	- 0	0
Other	- 0	0
Retired complaint, no longer a judge	0	0
Suspension	- 0	0
Recommendation of removal from office	0	_0
TOTAL	2	5

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<u>I</u> )	<u>HIS</u>	THIS FISCAL
<u>MC</u>	<u>NTH</u>	YEAR
D) Abuse of office:		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	0	0
Dismissal with warning	0	0
Dismissal after full investigation	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement	0	0
Private reprimand	0	0
Private censure	0	0
Public reprimand	0	0
Public censure	0	0
Other	0	1
Retired complaint, no longer a judge	0	0
Suspension	0	0
Recommendation of removal from office	0	0
TOTAL	0	1

<u>T</u>	HIS	THIS FISCAL
<u>M</u> C	<u>ONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
E) Delay:		_
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	0	11
Dismissal with warning		0
Dismissal after full investigation		0
Deferred discipline agreement		0
Private reprimand	. 0	0
Private censure		0
Public reprimand	. 0	0
Public censure	. 0	0
Other		0
Retired complaint, no longer a judge	- 0	0
Suspension	- 0	0
Recommendation of removal from office	0	_0
TOTAL	0	11

<u>THIS</u> <u>MONTH</u>	THIS FISCAL YEAR
F) Ex parte communications:	
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0	1
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 0	1
Dismissal with warning 0	0
Dismissal after full investigation 0	0
Deferred discipline agreement 0	0
Private reprimand 0	0
Private censure 0	0
Public reprimand 0	0
Public censure 0	0
Other 0	0
Retired complaint, no longer a judge 0	0
Suspension 0	0
Recommendation of removal from office 0	_0
TOTAL 0	2

<u>T</u>	<u>HIS</u>	THIS FISCAL
<u>MC</u>	<u>ONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
G) Disability:		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	0	0
Dismissal with warning	0	0
Dismissal after full investigation	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement	0	1
Private reprimand		0
Private censure	0	0
Public reprimand	0	0
Public censure	0	0
Other	0	0
Retired complaint, no longer a judge	0	0
Suspension	0	0
Recommendation of removal from office	0	_0
TOTAL	0	1

_	<u>THIS</u>	THIS FISCAL
<u>M</u>	<u>ONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
H) Political violation:		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	- 0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	- 0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	- 0	0
Dismissal with warning	- 1	1
Dismissal after full investigation	- 0	0
Deferred discipline agreement	- 0	0
Private reprimand	- 0	0
Private censure	- 0	0
Public reprimand	- 0	0
Public censure	- 0	0
Other	- 0	0
Retired complaint, no longer a judge	- 0	0
Suspension		0
Recommendation of removal from office	. 0	0
TOTAL	1	1

I) Recusal:	<u>THIS</u> IONTH	THIS FISCAL YEAR
,		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	- 0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	- 0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	- 3	15
Dismissal with warning	- 0	0
Dismissal after full investigation	- 0	Ô
Deferred discipline agreement	- 0	0
Private reprimand		2
Private censure		2
Public reprimand	U	0
		1
Public censure		0
Other		0
Retired complaint, no longer a judge	- 0	0
Suspension	. 0	0
Recommendation of removal from office	0	Ô
TOTAL	_ <u>~</u>	$\frac{0}{18}$
	7	10

THIS MONTH  J) Miscellaneous:	THIS FISCAL YEAR
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 1	1
Dismissal with warning 0	0
Dismissal after full investigation 0	0
Deferred discipline agreement 0	0
Private reprimand 0	0
Private censure 0	0
Public reprimand 0	0
Public censure 0	0
Other 0	Ö
Retired complaint, no longer a judge 0	0
Suspension 0	0
Recommendation of removal from office 0	0
TOTAL $\frac{1}{1}$	1