



THE TENNESSEE **BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

September 14, 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

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Dwight E. Stokes

Russell Humphrey Chief Clerk of the Senate State Capitol, 2nd Floor

Office of the Chief Clerk Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Chief Clerks:

James M. Hivner, Clerk 100 Supreme Court Building 401 Seventh Avenue, North Nashville. TN 37219-1407 615-253-1470

Joe McCord Chief Clerk of the House Office of the Chief Clerk State Capitol, 2nd Floor

Nashville, TN 37243

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

Sincerely,

CHRIS CRAFT **Board Chair**

CC/bep

BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT MONTHLY REPORT FOR AUGUST 2016

FILED

SEP 19 2016

Clerk of the Courts

The number and category of complaints OPENED¹:

| | <u>THIS</u> | THIS FISCAL |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| <u>N</u> | <u>IONTH</u> | <u>YEAR</u> |
| A) Failure to comply with law: | 23 | 47 |
| B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: | 2 | 3 |
| C) Discourtesy: | 0 | 3 |
| D) Abuse of office: | 1 | 4 |
| E) Delay: | 1 | 6 |
| F) Ex parte communications: | 0 | 0 |
| G) Disability: | 0 | 0 |
| H) Political violation: | 0 | 0 |
| I) Recusal: | 2 | 2 |
| J) Miscellaneous: | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL | 29 | 65 |

The number and category of complaints CLOSED:

| | THIS | THIS FISCAL |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <u> </u> | MONTH | <u>YEAR</u> |
| A) Failure to comply with law: | 17 | 43 |
| B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: | 3 | 5 |
| C) Discourtesy: | 2 | 2 |
| D) Abuse of office: | 1 | 2 |
| E) Delay: | 3 | 9 |
| F) Ex parte communications: | 0 | 0 |
| G) Disability: | 0 | 0 |
| H) Political violation: | 0 | 0 |
| I) Recusal: | 1 | 2 |
| J) Miscellaneous: | _0 | _0 |
| TOTAL | 27 | 63 |

^{1.} 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> | THIS FISCAL |
|--|-------------|
| <u>MONTH</u> | <u>YEAR</u> |
| A) Failure to comply with law: | |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 16 | 41 |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0 | 1 |
| 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 | 0 |
| Recommendation of removal from office 0 | _0 |
| TOTAL 17 | 43 |

| | HIS NTH | THIS FISCAL YEAR |
|---|------------|---------------------|
| B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: | | |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissed, inadequate factual basis | 3 | 5 |
| 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 | 3 | 5 |

|] | THIS | THIS FISCAL |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| <u>M0</u> | <u>HTMC</u> | <u>YEAR</u> |
| C) Discourtesy: | | |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissed, inadequate factual basis | 2 | 2 |
| Dismissal with warning | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissal after full investigation | 0 | 0 |
| Deferred discipline agreement | 0 | 0 |
| Private reprimand | 0 | 0 |
| Private censure | • | 0 |
| Public reprimand | | 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 | |

| <u>T</u> | <u>HIS</u> | THIS FISCAL |
|---|------------|-------------|
| MC | <u>NTH</u> | YEAR |
| D) Abuse of office: | | |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction | 0 | 1 |
| 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 | 0 |
| Recommendation of removal from office | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 1 | 2 |

| <u>T</u> | <u>HIS</u> | THIS FISCAL |
|---|------------|-------------|
| <u>MC</u> | <u>NTH</u> | <u>YEAR</u> |
| E) Delay: | | |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissed, inadequate factual basis | 2 | 8 |
| 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 | 0 |
| Recommendation of removal from office | 0 | _0 |
| TOTAL | 3 | 9 |

| <u>THIS</u> | <u>THIS FISCAL</u> |
|---|--------------------|
| MONT | <u>YEAR</u> |
| F) Ex parte communications: | |
| 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 | 0 |
| Retired complaint, no longer a judge 0 | 0 |
| Suspension 0 | 0 |
| Recommendation of removal from office 0 | _0 |
| TOTAL 0 | 0 |

| \underline{T} | <u>HIS</u> | THIS FISCAL |
|---|------------|-------------|
| <u>MC</u> | NTH | <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 | 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 | 0 |

| T | HIS | THIS FISCAL |
|---|------------|-------------|
| <u>MO</u> | <u>NTH</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 | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissal after full investigation | 0 | 0 |
| Deferred discipline agreement | | 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 | 0 |

| <u>T</u> | <u>HIS</u> | THIS FISCAL |
|---|------------|-------------|
| MC | NTH | <u>YEAR</u> |
| I) Recusal: | | |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissed, inadequate factual basis | 1 | 2 |
| Dismissal with warning | 0 | 0 |
| Dismissal after full investigation | 0 | 0 |
| Deferred discipline agreement | | 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 | 1 | 2 |

| | <u>THIS</u> | THIS FISCAL |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| · | <u>MONTH</u> | <u>YEAR</u> |
| J) Miscellaneous: | | |
| 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 |
| 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 | · <u>0</u> | _0 |
| TOTAL | 0 | 0 |