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Clerk of the Appellate Courts

## ADM2021-00010

## BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT MONTHLY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

The number and category of complaints OPENED<sup>1</sup>:

| <u>T</u>                           | HIS         |              |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| <u>M</u> 0                         | <u>HTMC</u> | YEAR-TO-DATE |
| A) Failure to comply with law:     | 13          | 157          |
| B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: | 7           | 43           |
| C) Discourtesy:                    | 0           | 10           |
| D) Abuse of office:                | 1           | 21           |
| E) Delay:                          | 0           | 11           |
| F) Ex parte communications:        | 0           | 3            |
| G) Disability:                     | 0           | 0            |
| H) Political violation:            | 1           | 2            |
| I) Recusal:                        | 0           | 8            |
| J) Miscellaneous:                  | - 1         | <u>4</u>     |
| $TOTAL^2$ :                        | 23          | 259          |

The number and category of complaints CLOSED:

|                                    | THIS         |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| $\underline{\mathbf{N}}$           | <u>IONTH</u> | YEAR-TO-DATE |
| A) Failure to comply with law:     | 28           | 164          |
| B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: | 5            | 37           |
| C) Discourtesy:                    | 4            | 13           |
| D) Abuse of office:                | 0            | 22           |
| E) Delay:                          | 4            | 12           |
| F) Ex parte communications:        | 0            | 3            |
| G) Disability:                     | 0            | 0            |
| H) Political violation:            | 0            | 1            |
| I) Recusal:                        | 1            | 7            |
| J) Miscellaneous:                  | 1            | 2            |
| TOTAL                              | 43           | 261          |

<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. On March 13, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court declared a state of Emergency for the Judicial Branch of Tennessee government and suspended in-person court proceedings, with certain exceptions through March 31, 2020. See In re: Covid-19 Pandemic, No. ADM2020-00428 (Tenn. 2020). On March 25, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court continued the suspension of in-court proceedings through April 30, 2020. Id. On April 24, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court modified the prior suspension of in-person proceedings. See In re: Covid-19 Pandemic, No. ADM2020-00428 (Tenn. April 24, 2020).

<sup>2.</sup> Out of the 23 total complaints filed, 35% were filed by inmates. Similarly, out of the 23 complaints, 100% were filed by the party that lost in the underlying proceeding.

## DISPOSITION of the complaints closed by CATEGORY:

| <u>TI</u><br>MO                         | HIS<br>NTH | YEAR-TO-DATE |
|---|------------|--------------|
| A) Failure to comply with law           |            |              |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling | 18         | 108          |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction              | 1          | 1            |
| Dismissed, inadequate factual basis     | 9          | 37           |
| Dismissal with warning                  | 0          | 1            |
| Dismissal after full investigation      | 0          | 0            |
| Deferred discipline agreement           | 0          | 0            |
| Private reprimand                       | 0          | 2            |
| Public reprimand                        | 0          | 0            |
| Other                                   | 0          | 14           |
| Retired complaint, no longer a judge    | 0          | 0            |
| Suspension                              | 0          | 0            |
| Recommendation of removal from office   | 0          | 0            |
| TOTAL                                   | 28         | 163          |
|   |            |              |

| <u>THIS</u><br>MONTH                      | YEAR-TO-DATE |
|---|--------------|
| B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:        | TEMETO BITTE |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 3 | 14           |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0              | 0            |
| Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 2     | 18           |
| Dismissal with warning 0                  | 2            |
| Dismissal after full investigation 0      | 0            |
| Deferred discipline agreement 0           | 0            |
| Private reprimand 0                       | 0            |
| Public reprimand 0                        | 0            |
| Other 0                                   | 3            |
| Retired complaint, no longer a judge 0    | 0            |
| Suspension 0                              | 0            |
| Recommendation of removal from office0    | _0           |
| TOTAL 5                                   | 37           |

|   | THIS        | VEAD TO DATE |
|---|-------------|--------------|
| C) D'                                   | MONTH       | YEAR-TO-DATE |
| C) Discourtesy:                         |             |              |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling | g 2         | 4            |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction              | 0           | 0            |
| Dismissed, inadequate factual basis     | 1           | 6            |
| Dismissal with warning                  | 0           | 2            |
| Dismissal after full investigation      | <b></b> 0   | 0            |
| Deferred discipline agreement           | 0           | 0            |
| Private reprimand                       |             | 0            |
| Public reprimand                        | 0           | 0            |
| Other                                   | 0           | 0            |
| Retired complaint, no longer a judge    | 0           | 0            |
| Suspension                              | <b>-</b> 1  | 1            |
| Recommendation of removal from office   | ce <u>0</u> | 0            |
| TOTAL                                   | 4           | 13           |
|   |             |              |
|   |             |              |
|   | THIS        |              |

| <u>1</u>                                | H12 |              |
|---|-----|--------------|
| MC                                      | NTH | YEAR-TO-DATE |
| D) Abuse of office:                     |     |              |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling | 0   | 4            |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction              | 0   | 0            |
| Dismissed, inadequate factual basis     | 0   | 13           |
| Dismissal with warning                  | 0   | 2            |
| Dismissal after full investigation      | 0   | 0            |
| Deferred discipline agreement           | 0   | 1            |
| Private reprimand                       | 0   | 0            |
| Public reprimand                        | 0   | 0            |
| Other                                   | 0   | 2            |
| Retired complaint, no longer a judge    | 0   | 0            |
| Suspension                              | 0   | 0            |
| Recommendation of removal from office   | 0   | 0            |
| TOTAL                                   | 0   | 22           |

| YEAR-TO-DATE |
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| 3            |
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| 6            |
| 1            |
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| 0            |
| _0           |
| 12           |
|              |

|                                       | THIS            |              |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
|                                       | <b>MONTH</b>    | YEAR-TO-DATE |
| F) Ex parte communications:           |                 |              |
| Dismissed, complaint about court rul  | ling 0          | 1            |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction            | · 0             | 0            |
| Dismissed, inadequate factual basis - | 0               | 2            |
| Dismissal with warning                | 0               | 0            |
| Dismissal after full investigation    | <b>-</b> 0      | 0            |
| Deferred discipline agreement         | 0               | 0            |
| Private reprimand                     | 0               | 0            |
| Public reprimand                      | 0               | 0            |
| Other                                 | 0               | 0            |
| Retired complaint, no longer a judge  | 0               | 0            |
| Suspension                            | 0               | 0            |
| Recommendation of removal from of     | ffice0          | _0           |
| TOTA                                  | $\Lambda L = 0$ | 3            |
|                                       |                 |              |

|  | THIS  |              |
|--|-------|--------------|
| <u>I</u>                                 | MONTH | YEAR-TO-DATE |
| 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            |
| Public reprimand                         | 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            |
|  |       |              |

|   | THIS  |             |    |
|---|-------|-------------|----|
| <u> </u>                                | MONTH | YEAR-TO-DAT | E. |
| 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     | 1           |    |
| Dismissal after full investigation      | 0     | 0           |    |
| Deferred discipline agreement           | 0     | 0           |    |
| Private reprimand                       | 0     | 0           |    |
| Public reprimand                        | 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><br>MONTH      | YEAR-TO-DATE                              |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| I) Recusal:  |                           |   |
| Dismissed, complaint about court ruling-   |                           | 4   |
| Dismissed, no jurisdiction   | 0                         | 0   |
| Dismissed, inadequate factual basis  |                           | 3   |
| Dismissal with warning   | 0                         | 0   |
| Dismissal after full investigation   | 0                         | 0   |
| Deferred discipline agreement  | 0                         | 0   |
| Private reprimand  | 0                         | 0   |
| Public reprimand   | 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                         | 7   |
|  |                           |   |
| J) Miscellaneous:  | <u>THIS</u><br>MONTH      | YEAR-TO-DATE                              |
|  | MONTH                     | YEAR-TO-DATE 0                            |
| J) Miscellaneous:  | <u>MONTH</u><br>0         |   |
| J) Miscellaneous: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling-   | MONTH<br>0<br>0           | 0   |
| J) Miscellaneous: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling- Dismissed, no jurisdiction  | MONTH<br>0<br>1           | 0 0                                       |
| J) Miscellaneous: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling- Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis  | MONTH 0 0 1 0             | 0<br>0<br>1                               |
| J) Miscellaneous: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling- Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis Dismissal with warning   | MONTH 0 0 1 0 0           | 0<br>0<br>1<br>0                          |
| J) Miscellaneous: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling- Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis Dismissal with warning Dismissal after full investigation  | MONTH 0 0 1 0 0 0         | 0<br>0<br>1<br>0<br>0                     |
| J) Miscellaneous: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling-Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis Dismissal with warning Dismissal after full investigation Deferred discipline agreement   | MONTH 0 0 1 0 0 0 0       | 0<br>0<br>1<br>0<br>0                     |
| J) Miscellaneous:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling- Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis Dismissal with warning Dismissal after full investigation Private reprimand   | MONTH 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0     | 0<br>0<br>1<br>0<br>0<br>0                |
| J) Miscellaneous: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling- Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis Dismissal with warning Dismissal after full investigation Deferred discipline agreement Private reprimand Public reprimand         | MONTH 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0   | 0<br>0<br>1<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0           |
| J) Miscellaneous:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling- Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis Dismissal with warning Dismissal after full investigation Deferred discipline agreement Private reprimand Public reprimand Other  | MONTH 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0     | 0<br>0<br>1<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0      |
| J) Miscellaneous:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling- Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis Dismissal with warning Dismissal after full investigation Private reprimand Public reprimand Retired complaint, no longer a judge | MONTH 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0<br>0<br>1<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0 |