

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

TELEPHONE: (802) 786-1063



P.O. BOX 310
RUTLAND, VT 05701-0310

BARBARA R. BLACKMAN, ESQ.
CHAIR

November 23, 2024

CLOSURE REPORT OF THE VERMONT JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

Re: Docket No.: 24.018

This Complaint contained allegations of a Judge participating in a political campaign and holding a political office, potentially implicating violations of Canon 4, Rules 4.1.

The Judicial Conduct Board conducted an Initial Inquiry pursuant to Rule 7(1) of the Rules for the Disciplinary Control of Judges, including a thorough review of the filings in the case, a review of the Canons at issue, and a response from the Judge. This review led to a conclusion that the Code itself lacks clarity regarding the specific allegations of the Complaint, such that it did not put the Judge on proper notice of the potential violation, and the Judge took prompt action to become in compliance once the issue was pointed out.

To the extent the Complaint alleges ethical impropriety or a violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct, the Board determined that under our Rule 8(1), there is "insufficient cause for further proceedings."

Accordingly, the Complaint in Docket No. 24.018 is DISMISSED.

JUDICIAL CONDUCT BOARD

By: 
Barbara R. Blackman, Chair