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September 30, 2025

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Brattleboro, VT 05301

RE: PRB-120-2025
Thomas Michael Melone, Esq. - Respondent
Merrill E. Bent- Complainant

Dear Panel:

The enclosed Petition of Misconduct was filed by Disciplinary Counsel on September 26, 2025. Respondent is required by A.O. 9, Rule 13.D(3) to file an answer within twenty days of service. This is now a public file.

This matter has been assigned to your hearing panel consistent with the rotation rule. See A.O. 9, Rule 13.D.(2). Your panel is now responsible for assuring that this matter proceeds through hearing and that a decision issues promptly.

I will remain responsible for the docket as the Program Administrator of the Professional Responsibility Program. I need to receive from you copies of all correspondence, notices and orders that you may issue. I will assist you with the logistics of scheduling hearings and conference calls, arranging for hearing rooms, securing a court reporter, etc.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Merrick Grutchfield".

Merrick Grutchfield
Program Administrator

Attachment

cc: Thomas Michael Melone, Esq., Respondent
Michael Hanley, Esq., Conflict Disciplinary Counsel
Carolyn Anderson, Esq., Chair
Michael Kupersmith, Esq., Hearing Panel Counsel