

## STATE OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

FILED

JUN 16 2020

Clerk of the Appellate Courts

Rec'd By LM

ADMZ0Z0-0000

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

Mailing Address: P.O.Box 159036 Nashville, TN 37215

MEMBERS OF THE TENNESSEE BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Dee David Gay Board Chair

Andrew G. Brigham Vice Chair

Marshall L. Davidson, III Disciplinary Counsel

Shane Hutton Assistant Disciplinary Counsel

Jeffrey M. Atherton H. Allen Bray Robert Carter, Jr. Edwena L. Crowe Rita Ellison William C. Koch, Jr. Camille R. McMullen Albert Mosley Benjamin Purser, Jr. Richard Rogers Dan Springer Terica Smith John Whitworth Robert W. Wilkinson June 15, 2020

Judiciary Committee of the Senate Senator Mike Bell 716 Cordell Hull Building Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Senator Bell:

Please find enclosed the statistical report of the Board of Judicial Conduct covering filings and dispositions for the month of May, 2020, as mandated by Tenn. Code Ann. § 17-5-202.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Board Chair

DDG/sp Enclosure



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John Whitworth
Robert W. Wilkinson

June 15, 2020

Judiciary Committee of the House Representative Michael Curcio 630 Cordell Hull Building Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Representative Curcio:

Please find enclosed the statistical report of the Board of Judicial Conduct covering filings and dispositions for the month of June, 2020, as mandated by Tenn. Code Ann. § 17-5-202.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Sincerely

Board Chair

DDG/sp Enclosure

## BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT MONTHLY REPORT FOR MAY 2020

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

<u>T</u>	<u>`HIS</u>	
<u>MC</u>	<u>NTH</u>	YEAR-TO-DATE
A) Failure to comply with law:	17	106
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:	7	36
C) Discourtesy:	0	6
D) Abuse of office:	1	4
E) Delay:	0	6
F) Ex parte communications:	0	1
G) Disability:	0	2
H) Political violation:	1	1
I) Recusal:	0	3
J) Miscellaneous:	-0	1
TOTAL	26	166

The number and category of complaints CLOSED:

	<u>THIS</u>	
<u>M</u>	ONTH	YEAR-TO-DATE
A) Failure to comply with law:	11	101
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:	7	38
C) Discourtesy:	0	5
D) Abuse of office:	0	4
E) Delay:	0	7
F) Ex parte communications:	0	1
G) Disability:	0	0
H) Political violation:	0	0
I) Recusal:	0	3
J) Miscellaneous:	_0	_1
TOTAL	18	160

<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).

## DISPOSITION of the complaints closed by CATEGORY:

MONT)	<u> YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
A) Failure to comply with law	
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4	61
Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0	6
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 6	28
Dismissal with warning 1	1
Dismissal after full investigation 0	0
Deferred discipline agreement 0	0
Private reprimand 0	0
Public reprimand 0	0
Other 0	5
Retired complaint, no longer a judge 0	0
Suspension 0	0
Recommendation of removal from office 0	_0
TOTAL 11	101
THIS	
MONTI	H YEAR-TO-DATE
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:	
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4	20
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4 Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0	20 0
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4 Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0 Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3	20
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4  Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0  Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3  Dismissal with warning 0	20 0
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4  Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0  Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3  Dismissal with warning 0  Dismissal after full investigation 0	20 0 13
MONTI  B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4  Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0  Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3  Dismissal with warning 0  Dismissal after full investigation 0  Deferred discipline agreement 0	20 0 13
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4  Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0  Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3  Dismissal with warning 0  Dismissal after full investigation 0  Deferred discipline agreement 0  Private reprimand 0	20 0 13 1 0
MONTI B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4 Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0 Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3 Dismissal with warning 0 Dismissal after full investigation 0 Private reprimand 0 Public reprimand 0	20 0 13 1 0 0
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4  Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0  Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3  Dismissal with warning 0  Dismissal after full investigation 0  Private reprimand 0  Public reprimand 0  Other 0	20 0 13 1 0 0 1 0 3
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4  Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0  Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3  Dismissal with warning 0  Dismissal after full investigation 0  Private reprimand 0  Public reprimand 0  Retired complaint, no longer a judge 0	20 0 13 1 0 0
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4  Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0  Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3  Dismissal with warning 0  Dismissal after full investigation 0  Private reprimand 0  Public reprimand 0  Retired complaint, no longer a judge 0  Suspension 0	20 0 13 1 0 0 0 1 0 3 0
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4  Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0  Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3  Dismissal with warning 0  Dismissal after full investigation 0  Private reprimand 0  Public reprimand 0  Retired complaint, no longer a judge 0  Recommendation of removal from office 0	20 0 13 1 0 0 1 0 3 0 0
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:  Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 4  Dismissed, no jurisdiction 0  Dismissed, inadequate factual basis 3  Dismissal with warning 0  Dismissal after full investigation 0  Private reprimand 0  Public reprimand 0  Retired complaint, no longer a judge 0  Suspension 0	20 0 13 1 0 0 0 1 0 3 0

<u>T</u>	<u>HIS</u>	
<u>MC</u>	NTH	YEAR-TO-DATE
C) Discourtesy:		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis		3
Dismissal with warning	0	1
Dismissal after full investigation	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement	0	0
Private reprimand		0
Public reprimand	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	

	HIS	
<u>MC</u>	<u>NTH</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
D) Abuse of office:		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	0	4
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	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	$\overline{0}$	4

	<u>THIS</u> MONTH	YEAR-TO-DATE
E) Delay:		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	; <del></del> 0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis		4
Dismissal with warning		1
Dismissal after full investigation		0
Deferred discipline agreement		0
Private reprimand		0
Public reprimand	0	0
Other		2
Retired complaint, no longer a judge	<del>-</del>	0
Suspension		0
Recommendation of removal from offic		0
TOTAL	0	7
101112	ū	•
	THIS	
	MONTH	VEAR-TO-DATE

<u>11113</u>	
MONTH	YEAR-TO-DATE
F) Ex parte communications:	
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling 0	1
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	1

<u></u>	<u>THIS</u>	
<u>M</u>	ONTH	YEAR-TO-DATE
G) Disability:		·
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	. 0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis		0
Dismissal with warning		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	· <b>0</b>	0
Recommendation of removal from office	0	_0
TOTAL	0	0

<u>T</u>	<u>HIS</u>	
MC	NTH	YEAR-TO-DATE
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	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	

	<u>THIS</u> MONTH	YEAR-TO-DATE
I) Recusal:		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	g 0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	0	3
Dismissal with warning	0	0
Dismissal after full investigation	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement	· 0	0
Private reprimand	0	0
Public reprimand		0
Other		0
Retired complaint, no longer a judge	0	0
Suspension	0	0
Recommendation of removal from office		_0
TOTAL		3
	THIS	
	THIS MONTH	YEAR-TO-DATE
J) Miscellaneous:		YEAR-TO-DATE
	<u>MONTH</u>	YEAR-TO-DATE
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	<u>MONTH</u> g 0	
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	<u>MONTH</u> g 0	0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	MONTH g 0 0 0	0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH g 0 0 0	0 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  0 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 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 1
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling Dismissed, no jurisdiction	MONTH  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0