

Adm 2017-00010

## THE TENNESSEE BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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

Kenny Armstrong  
Miles Burdine  
Angelita B. Dalton  
Joe F. Fowlkes  
Tas Gardner  
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J. Ronald Hickman  
Chris A. Hodges  
Thomas W. Lawless  
Christy R. Little  
Larry J. Logan  
Norma Ogle  
Ward Phillips  
J. Michael Sharp  
Dwight E. Stokes

April 17, 2017

Russell Humphrey  
Chief Clerk of the Senate  
Office of the Chief Clerk  
State Capitol, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243

Tammy Letzler  
Chief Clerk of the House  
Office of the Chief Clerk  
State Capitol, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Chief Clerks:

Please find enclosed the statistical report of the Board of Judicial Conduct covering filings and dispositions for the month of March, 2017, as mandated by Tenn. Code Ann. § 17-5-207.

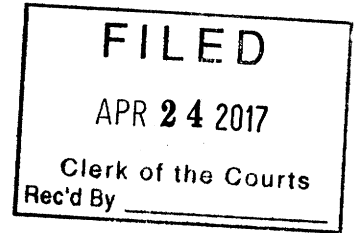
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chris Craft".

CHRIS CRAFT  
Board Chair

CC/bep

**BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT  
MONTHLY REPORT FOR MARCH 2017**



*Adm 2017-00010*

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

	<u>THIS MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL YEAR</u>
A) Failure to comply with law: -----	40	246
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: -----	0	8
C) Discourtesy: -----	0	10
D) Abuse of office: -----	0	4
E) Delay: -----	2	21
F) Ex parte communications: -----	0	1
G) Disability: -----	2	4
H) Political violation: -----	0	1
I) Recusal: -----	1	14
J) Miscellaneous: -----	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	45	310

The number and category of complaints CLOSED:

	<u>THIS MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL YEAR</u>
A) Failure to comply with law: -----	39	245
B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness: -----	0	11
C) Discourtesy: -----	1	12
D) Abuse of office: -----	0	8
E) Delay: -----	2	26
F) Ex parte communications: -----	1	2
G) Disability: -----	1	5
H) Political violation: -----	1	1
I) Recusal: -----	4	17
J) Miscellaneous: -----	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	49	328

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> <u>MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>
<b>A) Failure to comply with law:</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	35	215
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	4	9
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis -----	1	1
Dismissal with warning -----	0	2
Dismissal after full investigation -----	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement -----	0	14
Private reprimand -----	0	2
Private censure -----	0	0
Public reprimand -----	0	0
Public censure -----	0	0
Other -----	0	2
Retired complaint, no longer a judge -----	0	0
Suspension -----	0	0
Recommendation of removal from office --	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	39	245

	<u>THIS</u> <u>MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>
<b>B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis -----	0	11
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 --	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0	11

	<u>THIS</u> <u>MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>
<b>C) Discourtesy:</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis -----	1	12
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 --	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1	12

	<u>THIS</u> <u>MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>
<b>D) Abuse of office:</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	0	1
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis -----	0	1
Dismissal with warning -----	0	2
Dismissal after full investigation -----	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement -----	0	3
Private reprimand -----	0	0
Private censure -----	0	0
Public reprimand -----	0	1
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>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0	8

	<u>THIS</u> <u>MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>
<b>E) Delay:</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis -----	2	23
Dismissal with warning -----	0	1
Dismissal after full investigation -----	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement -----	0	0
Private reprimand -----	0	2
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>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	2	26

	<u>THIS</u> <u>MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>
<b>F) Ex parte communications:</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis -----	1	1
Dismissal with warning -----	0	0
Dismissal after full investigation -----	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement -----	0	0
Private reprimand -----	0	1
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>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1	2

	<u>THIS</u> <u>MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>
<b>G) Disability:</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis -----	1	3
Dismissal with warning -----	0	0
Dismissal after full investigation -----	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement -----	0	1
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 -----	1	1
Suspension -----	0	0
Recommendation of removal from office --	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1	5

	<u>THIS</u> <u>MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>
<b>H) Political violation:</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis -----	1	1
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 --	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1	1

	<u>THIS</u> <u>MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>
<b>I) Recusal:</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	0	0
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis -----	2	14
Dismissal with warning -----	2	3
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 --	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	4	17

	<u>THIS</u> <u>MONTH</u>	<u>THIS FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>
<b>J) Miscellaneous:</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	0	0
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	0	1
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 --	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0	1