



## TENNESSEE BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

### QUARTERLY REPORT

October 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025	<u>THIS QUARTER</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
Complaints Opened <sup>1</sup>	248	803
Complaints Closed	195	661
Probable Cause Found <sup>2</sup>	1	4
Formal Charges Filed	0	0
<b>DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINTS CLOSED</b>		
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling	71	245
Dismissed, no jurisdiction	28	55
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis	39	195
Dismissal with warning	2	5
Dismissal after full investigation	0	0
Deferred discipline agreement	0	2
Private reprimand	1	2
Public reprimand	0	0
Incomplete (no signature, no judge listed)	22	48
Other (SOL/repetitive)	32	109
Cease and desist order	0	0
Suspension	0	0
Recommendation of removal from office	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>661</b>

*The number of complaints PENDING on the last day of this quarter is 235.*

<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.

<sup>2</sup> “Probable cause was found” means that Disciplinary Counsel and the investigative panel believe that there is evidence supporting the allegations against a judge and the investigative panel has authorized a full investigation pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 17-5-303 (c)(2).

NATURE OF COMPLAINTS FILED BY TYPE OF JUDGE	<u>THIS QUARTER</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
<i>Failure to comply with law</i>		
Criminal	8	45
Circuit	8	31
Chancery	3	11
General Sessions	12	35
Juvenile	0	10
Magistrate and Referee	0	0
Municipal	1	4
Commissioner	0	1
Probate	1	3
Appellate/Supreme Court	2	3
Senior and Retired	1	1
Other (non-judge, deceased judge, out-of-state judge)	4	10
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>40</u></b>	<b><u>155</u></b>
<i>Bias, prejudice and unfairness</i>		
Criminal	15	70
Circuit	22	88
Chancery	13	31
General Sessions	29	106
Juvenile	23	46
Magistrate and Referee	0	3
Municipal	3	11
Commissioner	0	0
Probate	4	13
Appellate/Supreme Court	0	6
Senior and Retired	0	0
Other (non-judge, deceased judge, out-of-state judge)	12	18
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>121</u></b>	<b><u>392</u></b>

<i>Discourtesy</i>		
Criminal	3	10
Circuit	2	3
Chancery	0	2
General Sessions	4	9
Juvenile	0	0
Magistrate and Referee	0	0
Municipal	0	0
Commissioner	0	1
Probate	1	1
Appellate/Supreme Court	0	0
Senior and Retired	0	0
Other (non-judge, deceased judge, out-of-state judge)	0	0
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>10</b>	<b>26</b>
<i>Abuse of office</i>		
Criminal	3	10
Circuit	5	15
Chancery	1	8
General Sessions	7	13
Juvenile	1	7
Magistrate and Referee	0	0
Municipal	0	3
Commissioner	0	1
Probate	0	0
Appellate/Supreme Court	1	2
Senior and Retired	0	0
Other (non-judge, deceased judge, out-of-state judge)	2	7
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>20</b>	<b>66</b>
<i>Delay</i>		
Criminal	9	36
Circuit	7	14
Chancery	2	6
General Sessions	3	7
Juvenile	1	4
Magistrate and Referee	0	0
Municipal	0	1
Commissioner	0	0
Probate	0	0
Appellate/Supreme Court	1	1
Senior and Retired	0	0
Other (non-judge, deceased judge, out-of-state judge)	3	6
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>26</b>	<b>75</b>

<i>Ex parte communications</i>		
Criminal	0	2
Circuit	3	7
Chancery	0	4
General Sessions	1	6
Juvenile	0	4
Magistrate and Referee	0	0
Municipal	0	0
Commissioner	0	0
Probate	0	0
Appellate/Supreme Court	0	0
Senior and Retired	0	0
Other (non-judge, deceased judge, out-of-state judge)	0	0
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>4</b>	<b>23</b>
<i>Disability</i>		
Criminal	0	0
Circuit	0	1
Chancery	0	0
General Sessions	0	0
Juvenile	0	0
Magistrate and Referee	0	0
Municipal	0	0
Commissioner	0	0
Probate	0	0
Appellate/Supreme Court	0	0
Senior and Retired	0	0
Other (non-judge, deceased judge, out-of-state judge)	0	0
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>Political violation</i>		
Criminal	0	0
Circuit	0	0
Chancery	0	0
General Sessions	0	0
Juvenile	0	0
Magistrate	0	0
Municipal	0	0
Commissioner	0	0
Probate	0	0
Appellate/Supreme Court	0	0
Senior and Retired	0	0
Other (non-judge, deceased judge, out-of-state judge)	0	0
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<i>Recusal</i>		
Criminal	1	2
Circuit	0	1
Chancery	1	5
General Sessions	0	1
Juvenile	0	1
Magistrate and Referee	0	0
Municipal	0	0
Commissioner	0	0
Probate	0	0
Appellate/Supreme Court	0	0
Senior and Retired	0	0
Other (non-judge, deceased judge, out-of-state judge)	0	0
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>
<i>Miscellaneous (conflict of interest, perjury)</i>		
Criminal	3	9
Circuit	0	3
Chancery	6	9
General Sessions	8	17
Juvenile	2	6
Magistrate and Referee	0	0
Municipal	0	0
Commissioner	0	0
Probate	0	0
Appellate/Supreme Court	0	4
Senior and Retired	0	0
Other (non-judge, deceased judge, out-of-state judge)	6	7
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>25</b>	<b>55</b>

MEMBER VOTING	<u>D</u> (QRT)	<u>FI</u> (QRT)	<u>D</u> (YTD)	<u>FI</u> (YTD)
Hon. Jeffrey Atherton	0	0	58	0
Hon. H. Allen Bray	35	0	125	0
Hon. Tony Childress	36	1	216	2
Hon. Valerie Smith	43	0	132	0
Rodney Brown	31	0	113	2
William Koch Jr.	20	0	102	0
Hon. Camille McMullen	35	1	120	2
Bishop Edward Stephens	30	0	111	2
Benjamin Purser Jr.	0	0	83	0
C. Ashley Johnson	50	0	130	0
Dan Springer	0	0	89	0
Terica Smith	36	1	125	2
Hon. John Whitworth	30	0	110	2
Robert Wilkinson	30	0	109	0
Hon. Andy Brigham	35	0	59	0
Kimberly Black	9	0	9	0
Jon C. Lundberg	44	0	44	0
Robert Schlafly	20	0	20	0

*D* = Dismissals

*FI* = Full Investigations

Respectfully submitted,



Chancellor Jeffrey M. Atherton, Board Chair  
BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT