



ADM 2016-00040

# THE TENNESSEE BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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Suite 600  
Nashville, TN 37219

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100 Supreme Court Building  
401 Seventh Avenue, North  
Nashville, TN 37219-1407  
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## MEMBERS OF THE TENNESSEE BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

June 20, 2016

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Disciplinary Counsel

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Assistant Disciplinary Counsel

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

Joe McCord  
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 Quarterly Report for the third quarter of this fiscal year, as mandated by Tenn. Code Ann. § 17-5-207(b).

Sincerely,

CHRIS CRAFT  
Board Chair

ADM 2016-00040

FILED  
JUN 23 2016  
Clerk of the Courts  
Rec'd By \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT**  
(For the period 01/01/16 through 03/31/16)  
Due 6/20/16

The number of complaints OPENED<sup>1</sup> this quarter is 99. Year to date the number is 317.

The number of complaints CLOSED this quarter is 106. Year to date the number is 301.

The DISPOSITION of the complaints closed this quarter is:

	YTD (Year to Date)
Dismissed, complaint about court ruling----	67
Dismissed, no jurisdiction -----	1
Dismissed, inadequate factual basis -----	25
Dismissal with warning -----	1
Dismissal after full investigation -----	0
Deferred discipline agreement -----	1
Private reprimand -----	4
Private censure -----	0
Public reprimand -----	3
Public censure -----	0
Other -----	3
Retired complaint, no longer a judge -----	1
Cease and Desist Order-----	0
Suspension -----	0
Recommendation of removal from office --	0
TOTAL	106
	301

The number of complaints PENDING on the last day of this quarter is 68.

The number of complaints for which PROBABLE CAUSE WAS FOUND<sup>2</sup> this quarter is 15.  
The number year to date is 22.

The number of complaints for which FORMAL CHARGES WERE FILED this quarter is 0.  
The number year to date is 0.

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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.  
2. "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. §17-5-304 (c)(3).

The NATURE of the complaints filed and the TYPE OF JUDGE according to the following categories is:

<b>A) Failure to comply with the law:</b>		<u>YTD</u>
Criminal -----	26	77
Circuit -----	13	46
Chancery -----	5	18
General Sessions -----	23	62
Juvenile -----	1	1
Magistrate and Referee-----	1	6
Municipal -----	3	4
Commissioner -----	1	3
Probate -----	0	1
Appellate Court -----	0	10
Senior and Retired -----	0	1
Other -----	1	3
	<u>74</u>	<u>232</u>
TOTAL		(Non-judge, deceased judge, judge from another state, etc.)

<b>B) Bias, prejudice and unfairness:</b>		<u>YTD</u>
Criminal -----	2	4
Circuit -----	1	5
Chancery -----	0	3
General Sessions -----	2	6
Juvenile -----	0	0
Magistrate and Referee-----	0	5
Municipal -----	0	0
Commissioner -----	0	0
Probate -----	0	0
Appellate Court -----	0	0
Senior and Retired -----	0	0
Other -----	0	0
	<u>5</u>	<u>23</u>
TOTAL		

<b>C) Discourtesy:</b>		<u>YTD</u>
Criminal -----	0	2
Circuit -----	0	1
Chancery -----	0	1
General Sessions -----	5	5
Juvenile -----	0	0
Magistrate and Referee-----	0	0
Municipal -----	0	0
Commissioner -----	0	0
Probate -----	0	0
Appellate Court -----	0	0
Senior and Retired -----	0	0
Other -----	0	0
	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>
TOTAL		

<b>D) Abuse of office:</b>		<u>YTD</u>
Criminal -----	0	1
Circuit -----	0	0
Chancery -----	0	1
General Sessions -----	1	1
Juvenile -----	0	0
Magistrate and Referee-----	0	0
Municipal -----	0	0
Commissioner -----	0	0
Probate -----	0	0
Appellate Court -----	0	0
Senior and Retired -----	0	0
Other -----	0	0
TOTAL	1	3

<b>E) Delay:</b>		<u>YTD</u>
Criminal -----	1	5
Circuit -----	2	6
Chancery -----	0	0
General Sessions -----	0	8
Juvenile -----	0	0
Magistrate and Referee-----	0	1
Municipal -----	0	0
Commissioner -----	0	0
Probate -----	0	0
Appellate Court -----	0	1
Senior and Retired -----	0	0
Other -----	0	0
TOTAL	3	21

<b>F) Ex parte communications:</b>		<u>YTD</u>
Criminal -----	0	0
Circuit -----	1	2
Chancery -----	0	0
General Sessions -----	0	1
Juvenile -----	0	0
Magistrate and Referee-----	0	0
Municipal -----	0	1
Commissioner -----	0	0
Probate -----	0	0
Appellate Court -----	0	0
Senior and Retired -----	0	0
Other -----	0	0
TOTAL	1	4

<b>G) Disability:</b>		<u>YTD</u>
Criminal -----	0	0
Circuit -----	0	0
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 Court -----	0	0
Senior and Retired -----	0	0
Other -----	0	0
TOTAL	0	0

<b>H) Political violation:</b>		<u>YTD</u>
Criminal -----	0	0
Circuit -----	0	0
Chancery -----	0	0
General Sessions -----	0	0
Juvenile -----	0	0
Magistrate and Referee-----	0	0
Municipal -----	0	0
Commissioner -----	0	1
Probate -----	0	0
Appellate Court -----	0	0
Senior and Retired -----	0	0
Other -----	0	0
TOTAL	0	1

<b>I) Recusal:</b>		<u>YTD</u>
Criminal -----	0	4
Circuit -----	3	8
Chancery -----	0	0
General Sessions -----	0	5
Juvenile -----	1	1
Magistrate and Referee-----	0	1
Municipal -----	0	1
Commissioner -----	0	0
Probate -----	0	0
Appellate Court -----	0	3
Senior and Retired -----	0	0
Other -----	0	0
TOTAL	4	23

<b>J) Miscellaneous:</b>		<u>YTD</u>
Criminal -----	0	1
Circuit -----	0	0
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 Court -----	0	0
Senior and Retired -----	0	0
Other -----	0	0
TOTAL	0	1

## Member Voting

	D	FI	D	FI
	YTD			
Hon. Norma Ogle	16	1	43	1
Edward G. Phillips	20	1	45	3
Judge Kenny Armstrong	18	3	36	7
Miles Burdine	17	0	64	0
Judge Angelita Dalton	16	0	44	3
Judge Joe Fowlkes	10	14	39	18
Robert Gardner	15	1	51	5
Ronald Hickman	16	18	41	26
Chris Hodges	15	1	35	1
Thomas Lawless	13	0	41	0
Judge Christy Little	21	1	65	1
Judge Larry Logan	18	2	48	6
Judge Michael Sharp	17	1	49	1
Judge Dwight Stokes	19	3	43	7
Judge Dee Gay	12	17	36	20

D= Dismissals

FI= Full Investigations

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Craft', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

CHRIS CRAFT, Board Chair  
BOARD OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT