FILED

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A.C.J.C.

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Attorney for Respondent

IN THE MATTER OF
CHRISTINE JONES-TUCKER,
JUDGE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

DOCKET NO: ACJC 2017-181

ANSWER

Respondent, Christine Jones-Tucker, by way of Answer to the Complaint says:

FACTS

- 1. Admitted.
- 2. Admitted.

COUNT I

- 3. Admitted.
- 4. Admitted.
- 5. Admitted.
- 6. Admitted.
- 7. Admitted.
- 8. Admitted.
- 9. Admitted.

- 10. Admitted.
- 11. Admitted.
- 12. Admitted.
- 13. Admitted.
- 14. Admitted.
- 15. Admitted.
- 16. Admitted.
- 17. Admitted.
- 18. Admitted.
- 19. Admitted.
- 20. Admitted.
- 21. Admitted.
- 22. Admitted.
- 23. Admitted.
- 24. Admitted.
- 25. Admitted.
- 26. Denied.
- 27. Denied.
- 28. Denied.
- 29. Denied.
- 30. Denied.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent requests that there be a determination that there was no violation of the Cannons of the Code of Judicial Conduct and that the Complaint be dismissed.

SEPARATE DEFENSES

- 1. The emails referenced in the Complaint and the identification of who was the sender, recipient and who was copied speak for themselves. Each email individually, or in the aggregate does not constitute a violation of any Cannon of the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- 2. The colloquy during the proceeding of January 6, 2017, speaks for itself. The references in the Complaint and the entirety of the proceedings do not constitute a violation of any Cannon of the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- 3. Cannon 1 Rule 1.1 of the Code of Judicial Conduct provides that "a judge shall participate in establishing, maintaining and enforcing, and shall personally observe high standards of conduct so that the integrity, impartiality and independence of the judiciary is preserved". At all times reference herein, as well as other times, the Respondent established, maintained, enforced and observed the highest standards of conduct so as that the integrity and impartiality and independence of the judiciary is preserved.
- 4. Cannon 2 Rule 2.1 of the Code of Judicial Conduct provides that "a judge shall act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence and independence, integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, and shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety." At all times herein and at

other times the Respondent acted in a manner that promoted public confidence and independence, integrity and impartiality of the judiciary and did avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety.

- 5. Cannon 3 Rule 3.5 of the Code of Judicial Conduct states that "a judge shall be patient, dignified and courteous to litigants, jurors, witnesses, lawyers and others with whom the judge deals in an official capacity, and shall not permit lawyers, court officials and others subject to the judge's direction and control to display impatience or discourtesy or detract from the dignity of the Court". At all times involved herein and at other times the Respondent was patient, dignified and courteous to litigants, jurors, witnesses and lawyers and others with whom the judge deals in an official capacity and did not display impatience or discourtesies to detract from the dignity of the Court.
- 6. Cannon 3, Rule 3.8 of the Code of Judicial Conduct states "a judge shall not initiate or consider ex parte or other communications concerning a pending or impending proceeding".

 At no time did Respondent violate this Rule or initiate or consider any inappropriate ex parte or other communication concerning a pending or impending proceeding.
- 7. The Respondent at no time made any knowing misrepresentation.

8. At no time was there a real or actual conflict of interest in the matter that was the subject of the Complaint.

Carl D. Poplar, P.A. A Professional Corporation

By: Carl D. Poplar Attorney for Respondent

Dated: July 23, 2018