

6. During the proceeding, Respondent noted that the defendant had multiple domestic violence matters. Respondent, speaking to the defendant, stated,

I'm going to tell you what I tell a lot of people with this same charge. Because all of these charges are the same.

We, as men, and I can speak to you as a man, cause I am a man as well. We get frustrated with the women human beings. Because we try to straighten out a creation cause they was created with a curve. But we as men, we think we above creation and we can straighten it out. No matter how much you try, or how you try to straighten out that curve, you can never do it. We get frustrated and then but, in our frustration you can't come at them like you Mike Tyson and they're in the ring like they're Leon Spinks. You can't do it. You can't punch, you can't hit. At best, you treat as if you're holding a feather, just to let them know you're the man and you're in control. But in each of these five complaints it said you went at them like Mike Tyson.

7. Respondent's reference to women and the manner in which men should treat them was inappropriate, disparaging to women and had the potential to create the appearance of a gender bias in violation of Canon 3, Rule 3.6 (A) and (C) of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

8. On July 30, 2019, Respondent appeared before the Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct for an Informal Conference. At the Informal Conference, Respondent was asked: "What's the curve that women were created with?" to which Respondent replied: "But when I was young, I was altar boy and so it says Adam was created from the curved rib of a man. So if you believe in a creation from a higher power, then that curve is the creation of the woman with the curve of the rib of Adam."

9. By his conduct as described above, Respondent assimilated his personal religious beliefs into his judicial role and demonstrated an inability to conform his conduct to the high standards of

conduct expected of judges and impugned the integrity of the Judiciary in violation of Canon 1, Rule 1.1 and Canon 2, Rule 2.1 and Rule 2.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

WHEREFORE, Complainant charges that Respondent, Municipal Court Judge Steven Brister, has violated the following Canons of the Code of Judicial Conduct:

Canon 1, Rule 1.1, which requires judges to observe high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the Judiciary may be preserved;

Canon 2, Rule 2.1, which requires judges to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety and to act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the Judiciary;

Canon 2, Rule 2.2, which requires judges to decide cases according to the law and facts and not permit family, social, political, financial or other relationships or interests to influence their judicial conduct or judgment;

Canon 3, Rule 3.5, which requires judges to be patient, dignified and courteous to all those with whom the judge deals in an official capacity;

Canon 3, Rule 3.6 (A), which requires judges to be impartial and not to discriminate because of race, creed, color, sex, gender identity or expression, religion/religious practices or observances, national origin/nationality, ancestry, language, ethnicity, disability or perceived disability, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, status as a veteran or disabled veteran of, or liability for service in, the Armed Forces of the United States, age, affectional or sexual orientation, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, socioeconomic status or political affiliation; and

Canon 3, Rule 3.6 (C), which requires judges, in the performance of judicial duties, to refrain from using words or conduct which manifest bias or prejudice, or engage in harassment, including but not limited to bias, prejudice or harassment on the bases specified in Rule 3.6 (A).

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