

## ANNUAL REPORT OF JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE IN SOUTH CAROLINA 2017-2018

### COMPLAINTS PENDING & RECEIVED:

Complaints Pending June 30, 2017	41
Complaints Received July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	<u>264</u>
Total	305

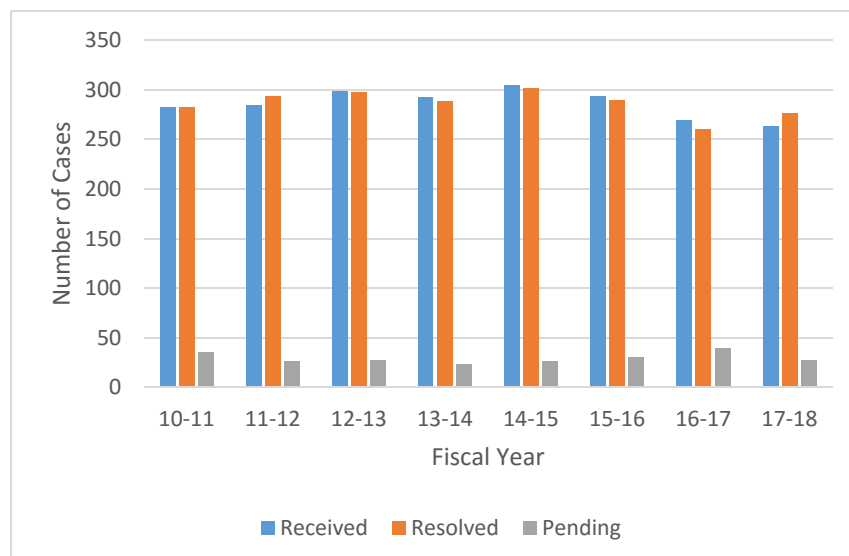
### DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINTS:

#### Dismissed:

By Disciplinary Counsel after initial review (no jurisdiction)	174
By Disciplinary Counsel after investigation (lack of evidence)	22
By Investigative Panel	66
By Supreme Court	<u>0</u>
Total	262

#### Not Dismissed:

Referred to Other Agency	0
Closed but not Dismissed	2
Closed due to Death	0
Deferred Discipline Agreement	0
Letter of Caution	12
Admonition	0
Public Reprimand	1
Suspension	0
Removal from Office	<u>0</u>
Total	15
Total Complaints Resolved	<u>277</u>
Total Complaints Pending as of June 30, 2018	28



**JUDICIAL POSITION:**

Magistrate	33.71%	
Circuit	28.41%	<b>Less than 1.00%</b>
Family	16.67%	ALJ/Commissioner
Probate	6.44%	Appellate
Master/Referee	4.17%	
Unknown	1.14%	

**SOURCE OF COMPLAINT:**

Litigant	81.44%	
Family/Friend of Litigant	6.44%	<b>Less than 1.00%</b>
Citizen (not involved in case)	4.92%	Family/Friend of Victim/Witness
Public Official/ Agency/ Law Enforcement	1.52%	Anonymous
Employee	1.14%	Attorney
		Victim/Litigation Witness
		Self-Report
		Unknown

**CASE TYPE:**

Criminal	48.11%	
Domestic	15.91%	
Probate	7.20%	<b>Less than 1.00%</b>
General Civil	6.44%	Personal Injury
Landlord/Tenant	6.44%	Real Estate
Not Case Related	5.68%	Employment
Debt Collection/Foreclosure	2.65%	Property Contract Dispute
Contract Dispute	1.52%	Worker's Compensation
Property Dispute/Claim & Delivery	1.52%	Unknown
Post-Conviction Relief	1.14%	

**ALLEGED MISCONDUCT:**

Fairness/Bias/Prejudice	51.14%	Failure to	
Competence	12.50%	Maintain Decorum	1.14%
Disqualification/Recusal/Conflict	7.20%	Political Activity/	
Unknown/Unspecified	7.20%	Campaign	1.14%
Civility/Temperament	5.68%		
Diligence	5.30%	<b>Less than 1.00%</b>	
Ex Parte Communication	3.03%	Criminal Conduct	
Improper Influence/Use of Office	2.27%		
Supervision	1.52%		
Other Conduct	1.52%		

## **COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

### COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS:

Meetings of Investigative Panels	4
Formal Charges Filed	0
Formal Charges Hearings	0
Incapacity Proceedings	0
Meetings of Full Commission	0

### REQUESTS FOR DISMISSAL REVIEW:

Requests for Review by Complainant	4
Dismissal Affirmed by Panel	(4)
Case Remanded for Further Investigation	<u>(0)</u>
Dismissal Reviews Pending	0

### JUDGES BEING MONITORED:

New Monitor Files Opened	0
Judges Currently Monitored	0

## **SUPREME COURT OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

### DISCIPLINARY ORDERS\*:

Dismissal	0
Letter of Caution	0
Admonition	0
Public Reprimand	1
Definite Suspension	0
Removal from Office	0
Transfer to Incapacity Inactive	0
Interim Suspension	0

\*These figures represent the number of orders issued by the Supreme Court, not the number of complaints resolved. One disciplinary order might conclude multiple complaints.

### COMPLAINTS REFERRED TO SUPREME COURT:

Complaints resolved	1
Pending as of June 30, 2018	3