

In the Matter of the Honorable Amy Leigh Nickerson, Judge of the Orphans' Court of Maryland for Kent County, Second Judicial District, JD No. 1, September Term, 2020, Opinion by Booth, J.

JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE — SANCTIONS — REMOVAL

Judge Amy Leigh Nickerson violated Maryland Rules 18-101.1 (Compliance with the Law); 18-101.2 (Promoting Confidence in the Judiciary); 18-101.3 (Avoiding Lending the Prestige of Judicial Office); 18-102.16 (Cooperation with Disciplinary Authorities); and 18-103.1 (Extra-Official Activities in General). These violations arose after Judge Nickerson was charged with and convicted of impaired driving and other related offenses; sought to use her judicial office and personal connections to influence an officer's decision to charge her with impaired driving and other related offenses; failed to cooperate with an officer during a traffic stop; failed to cooperate with disciplinary authorities; and failed to comply with the terms of a Conditional Diversion Agreement and private reprimand. Removal is the appropriate sanction in this case.