SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY **D-5** September Term 2020 084915

In the Matter of	:	FILED	ORDER	
Aishaah A. Rasul,	:	FEB 16 2021	ORDER	
A Judge of the	:	(Heather J Bale, CLERK)		
Municipal Court	:			

The Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct having filed with the Court pursuant to Rule 2:15-15(a), a presentment recommending that Aishaah A. Rasul, a Judge of the City of Englewood Municipal Court, be suspended from the performance of judicial duties for a period of no less than ten months, without pay, retroactive to the date of her suspension pursuant to the Order of the Court filed November 13, 2019, for conduct found by clear and convincing evidence to be in violation of Canon 1, Rule 1.1 (requires judges to "participate in establishing, maintaining and enforcing, and ... [to] personally observe, high standards of conduct so [as to preserve] . . . the integrity, impartiality and independence of the judiciary"); Canon 1, Rule 1.2 (requires judges to "respect and comply with the law"); Canon 2, Rule 2.1 (requires judges to "act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, and . . . [to] avoid impropriety and the appearance of

impropriety"); Canon 2, Rule 2.2 (requires judges to decide cases according to the law and the facts and to not permit family, social, political, financial or other relationships or interests to influence their judicial conduct or judgment); Canon 2, Rule 2.3(A) (prohibits judges from "lend[ing] the prestige of judicial office to advance the personal or economic interests of the judge or others) Canon 3, Rule 3.2 (requires judges to "maintain professional competence") Canon 3, Rule 3.5 (requires judges to be patient, dignified, and courteous to litigants, jurors, witnesses, lawyers and others with whom the judge deals in an official capacity); Canon 3, Rule 3.6(A) (requires judges to be impartial and prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, sex, gender identity or expression, religion/religious practices or observances, etc.); Canon 3, <u>Rule</u> 3.6(C) (prohibits judges from manifesting, by words or conduct, any bias or prejudice, and from engaging in harassment on the bases specified in Rule 3.6(A), and from allowing their staff to do so); Canon 3, Rule 3.7 (requires judges to "accord to every person who is legally interested in a proceeding . . . the right to be heard according to law or court rule"); Canon 3, Rule 3.8 (judges "shall not initiate or consider ex parte or other communications concerning a pending or impending proceeding"); Canon 3, Rule 3.17(B)(6) (judges "shall disqualify themselves whenever

the nature of the relationship to a party or a lawyer, because of a continuing social relationship or otherwise, would give rise to partiality or the appearance of partiality"); and <u>Rule</u> 1:12-1(g) of the <u>Rules of Court</u> (requires judges to disqualify themselves when there is any reason that might preclude a fair and unbiased hearing and judgment, or which might reasonably lead counsel or the parties to believe so);

And the Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct having recommended that Count VII of the formal complaint against respondent be dismissed for lack of clear and convincing evidence of the violations charged;

And the Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct further having recommended that on respondent's return to the bench, her Assignment Judge develop a plan to closely supervise respondent and to encourage her continued professional development;

And respondent, through counsel, having accepted the findings and recommendations for discipline of the Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct and having waived her right to the issuance of an Order to Show Cause and a hearing before the Supreme Court;

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that the findings and recommendations of the Advisory

Committee on Judicial Conduct are adopted and **Aishaah A. Rasul**, a Judge of the Municipal Court for the City of Englewood, is hereby suspended from the performance of her judicial duties for a period of ten months, without pay, from November 13, 2019 through September 12, 2020; and it is further

ORDERED that on respondent's return to the bench, her Assignment Judge shall develop a plan to closely supervise respondent and to encourage her professional development, with which respondent shall comply; and it is further

ORDERED that Count VII of the formal complaint is dismissed.

WITNESS, the Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice, at Trenton, this 9th day of February, 2021.

(Heather) Saler

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT