

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 24-027

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

May 31, 2024

The Complainant alleged improper legal rulings by a superior court judge hearing a family case.

The role of the Commission on Judicial Conduct is to impartially determine whether a judicial officer has engaged in conduct that violates the Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct or Article 6.1 of the Arizona Constitution. There must be clear and convincing evidence of such a violation in order for the Commission to take disciplinary action against a judicial officer.

The Commission does not have jurisdiction to overturn, amend, or remand a judicial officer's legal rulings. The Commission reviewed all relevant available information and concluded there was not clear and convincing evidence of ethical misconduct in this matter. The complaint is therefore dismissed pursuant to Commission Rules 16(a) and 23(a).

Commission members Joseph C. Kreamer, Regina L. Nassen and Christopher P. Staring did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on May 31, 2024.

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Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct
1501 W. Washington Street, Suite 229
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

2024-027

COMPLAINT AGAINST A JUDGE

Name: Judge's Name:

Instructions: Use this form or plain paper of the same size to file a complaint. Describe in your own words what you believe the judge did that constitutes judicial misconduct. Be specific and list all of the names, dates, times, and places that will help the commission understand your concerns. Additional pages may be attached along with copies (not originals) of relevant court documents. Please complete one side of the paper only, and keep a copy of the complaint for your records.

Complaint Against Judge _____ for Alleged Judicial Misconduct

Background Information:

Case Name and Number: In Re The Matter of _____ and _____ Case No. _____

Court Location: _____ Court of Arizona, _____ County.
Judges Involved: Originally Honorable _____, later reassigned to Judge _____

Allegations of Judicial Misconduct:

Allegation of Negligence in Handling Court Paperwork:
Dates of Concern: Ongoing issue, specifically highlighted on _____
Description: Judge _____ is accused of consistently delaying responses to submitted court documents, leading to a perceived neglect of the case's timely processing.

Allegation of Bias and Discrimination:
Court Proceeding Date: _____
Description: It's alleged that Judge _____ demonstrated bias against _____ based on gender, favoring _____ despite alleged procedural errors. This includes allowing _____ to submit evidence improperly while denying _____ the same opportunity.

Allegation of Mishandling Evidence:
Specific Incident: Court proceeding on _____
Description: Judge _____ is accused of misrepresenting the amount and substance of evidence submitted by Parkinson, leading to an unfair assessment of the situation.

Allegation of Incorrect Legal Interpretation:
Specific Incident: Related to the events at _____
Description: Judge _____ is accused of wrongly justifying _____ action of calling the police based on an invalid order of protection, thereby incorrectly applying legal standards.

Allegation of Negligence in Parental Rights Consideration:
Description: It is claimed that Judge _____ failed to adequately consider the violation of parental rights regarding the schooling decisions for their child.

General Allegations of Inefficiency and Loss of Paperwork:
Description: The complaint includes allegations of general inefficiency, loss of paperwork, and excessive delays in communication.

Requested Actions:

Investigation into Judicial Conduct: An independent investigation into the conduct of Judge _____ focusing on the alleged negligence, bias, and procedural errors.
Review of Case Handling: A thorough review of the case _____ to assess potential mishandling and biases in decision-making.
Consideration for Contempt and Dismissal: Based on the investigation's findings, consideration for holding Judge _____ in contempt and potential dismissal from her position if misconduct is proven.

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Conclusion:

The complaint stresses the serious nature of the allegations, emphasizing the impact on parental rights and the potential broader implications of such judicial conduct.