

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT
1501 W. Washington St., Suite 229
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
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News Release

Commission Hearing Scheduled on Formal Charges Against Pima County Justice of the Peace Adam Watters

PHOENIX. The Commission on Judicial Conduct has announced that it will hold a hearing to consider formal charges of judicial misconduct against Pima County Justice of the Peace Adam Watters on Weds., Sept. 7, 2022 at 9 a.m. in Room 109 of the State Courts Building—1501 W. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85007.

The formal charges allege that Judge Watters violated Rules 1.1 and 1.2 of the Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct and Article 6.1, Section 4 of the Arizona Constitution, for conduct arising out of two incidents. The first alleges he used extensive profanity and discharged a firearm in the vicinity of an individual who was subsequently convicted of stalking Judge Watters and the second alleges he again used profanity when he was being served with a subpoena to testify at a criminal hearing involving the same individual.

Disciplinary Counsel Ariel Worth will represent the Commission in this proceeding. Judge Watters is self-represented. Evidence will be heard by a hearing panel comprised of eight members of the Commission.

Following the presentation of evidence and arguments by the parties, the hearing panel will consider the evidence and prepare and file findings of facts, conclusions of law, and a decision whether the judge engaged in judicial misconduct. If he's found to have engaged in judicial misconduct, the hearing panel will determine the level of sanction that should be imposed, which could range from a public reprimand to removal from office. A sanction of public censure, suspension, or removal is subject to review and/or approval by the Arizona Supreme Court.

The hearing is open to the public. Journalists who wish to photograph or record, all or part of the proceedings must submit Request to Broadcast, Record, or Photograph form, found here: azcourts.gov/Portals/201/Request2Broadcast.pdf.

For more information, contact

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