

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 10-262

Complainant:	No. 0308110498A
Judge:	No. 0308110498B

ORDER

The judge voluntarily reported that he assisted his wife in her campaign work on behalf of a political candidate by helping her put up campaign signs. The commission decided to dismiss the complaint with a private comment reminding the judge of his obligation to comply with Rule 1.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, which requires judges to avoid even an appearance of impropriety.

The complaint is dismissed pursuant to Rules 16(a) and 23.

Dated: December 20, 2010

FOR THE COMMISSION

\s\ William Brammer

J. William Brammer, Jr.
Commission Chair

Copies of this order were mailed
to the complainant and the judge
on December 20, 2010.

This order may not be used as a basis for disqualification of a judge.

OCT 18 2010

COCHISE COUNTY JUSTICE COURT PRECINCT 5

Justice of the Peace

Justice of the Peace Pro Tempore

October 15, 2010

Commission on Judicial Conduct
1501 W Washington, Ste 229
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Members of the Commission:

This letter is to report that I may have violated Rule 4.1.

My wife is assisting in the election campaign of Tom Horne, candidate for Attorney General. She was asked to put up election signs. My wife was unable to put the signs by herself, and we did not want to bother our friends who were already helping with my campaign, so I assisted her by putting up 7 or 8 signs in the Sierra Vista area. The signs have been up since July.

Someone observed me repairing a sign on October 10, and raised an objection to my actions. I contacted Keith Stott, who advised me that assisting with the signs was improper under Rule 4.1; therefore, I am bringing this issue to the Commission's attention.

I realize now that I may have taken too narrow a viewpoint of my actions, but it was my perception that I was helping my wife, not helping the candidate. I never had contact with the candidate or his staff regarding the signs or any other aspect of his campaign. All the dealings were between my wife and the candidate's staff. I did not think that helping my wife put up signs violated the Rule 4.1 prohibition against "actively take part in any political campaign other than his or her own..." because of the limited nature of my involvement and I did not see it as a public activity, such as going door to door or making telephone calls. After discussing this issue with Mr. Stott, I will no longer be involved with the signs and will be more careful to separate myself from my wife's political activities.

Please contact me if more information is needed.

Sincerely,