

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 24-076

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

June 14, 2024

The Complainant alleged a superior court judge made improper rulings in a probate 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 member Barbara Brown did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on June 14, 2024.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

2024-076

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.

My father _____ passed away in _____ in _____, leaving behind a _____ million estate that went improperly through unsupervised informal probate. Case started with Commissioner _____ . I informed Judge _____ of the magnitude of the estate in affidavit probate and the fact that there are several million dollars of assets still publicly titled in my fathers name that were not held in his _____ million Trust/ _____ Family Ltd Partnership. Attorney _____ filed to quick-close the case, as opposed to the normal year and a day these probate cases are left open. Judge _____ approved closing the case, but I wrote him a letter informing him of the issues and filed a petition opposing closing the case stating perjury by attorney _____ as I have not received my interest of _____ in the Family partnership, valued at _____ million. Judge _____ said it was contested and he would " _____ .

I had not yet signed the agreement as it was in direct violation of the original Trust documents due to required mandatory uncapped contributions to the trust. Attorney _____ served me with _____ (granting me standing), heard before Commissioner _____ I responded and told Judge _____ the entire issues.

Judge _____ sent the case to Judge _____ as it was considered contested now. Judge _____ consolidated the 2 cases. I informed the Court that millions of dollars in luxury real estate had been removed from the Trust after his death and placed in my mother's personal trust and provided County records of deed transfers. Judge _____ scolded me for being " _____ .

Judge _____ called both sides to pre-trial meeting via telephone and informed me that he will outright dismiss my case or not even read the filings. Judge _____ only concern was that I get an attorney and kept pushing for me to explore more options as no attorney wanted to contest complex trust issues, they prefer to create trusts via templates. The same night that Judge _____ informed me that he would not fairly hear the case and outright dismiss it, I signed the agreement out of duress, knowing I was to be deprived of due process.

I filed petitions that explained how improperly probate was handled: there was no notification sent as per Duty to inform (ARS 14-10813(3)) when the Trust went irrevocable, which according to trust documents was at time of death. My siblings raided the _____ million in cash in the trust during that time, swapping appreciated stock for cash/real estate despite being against terms of the original trust through an abusive tax avoidance scheme. Attorney _____ wrote back-dated contracts to make it appear legitimate and the Judge went along with it. No notices were ever sent regarding assignement of Personal Representative, _____ my mother, who is also sole trustee and General Partner of the Family Ltd Partnership.

My father was part owner of the _____ baseball team and it is unclear what happened to that _____ asset, as informal unsupervised probate never did any accounting of the enormous estate, despite the mountain of evidence provided different Judges in _____ County _____ Court. I requested an accounting, but Judge _____ ignored the request.

Judge _____ dismissed me from the case saying I had no standing, despite my being served in one of the consolidated cases. Judge _____ AGAIN immediately closed the case, bypassing normal procedures. Judge _____ denied Due Process thereby costing me my _____ million inheritance. Judge _____ appears to work for the attorneys and refuses Pro Se litigants outright. Judge _____ is only good at closing cases, it seems. He should retire if he hates doing his job so much as he harms people. I am not wealthy and my father wanted to leave this gift to me and my children.

I still _____ years later have not received any documents confirming my interest in the partnership. The

