

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 24-085

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

June 27, 2024

The Complainant alleged a justice of the peace was rude while interacting with a county employee.

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 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 Roger D. Barton, Louis Frank Dominguez, and Regina L. Nassen did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on June 27, 2024.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

2024-085

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.

When I spoke with Judge _____, I told him that I am the county's switchboard operator, and I had a caller on the line who needed to speak to someone. He said, "

" I explained that the person had been calling and kept trying to get through to the office. Judge _____ retorted, "

replied, " He said, " I told him, "

" He said, " I was so disgusted by how he treated me, I didn't even say goodbye. From the beginning to the end of this exchange, he was dismissive, condescending, snide, short, and just flat-out rude. When I talked to the caller, I had to be honest. "

" The caller was exasperated. but chuckled. She said, "

" Again, I told her, "

After I got off the phone, I vented about this incident to my coworkers. None of them were surprised, because Judge _____ has been rude to them, too. He has developed a reputation for it. Plus, we've taken countless calls complaining about the difficulty of reaching and dealing with the _____ Court, and paying their tickets. Apparently, the citation number isn't on their paperwork, and neither is the amount to be paid. (This is not anything against the ladies who work there; on the rare occasion when I have spoken to them, they have been just fine. I've called alternative extensions on behalf of the frustrated public, and the ladies haven't rejected the transfer. The unprofessionalism comes from Judge _____, not them.) I can't tell you how many times citizens have said, "

" One of my coworkers said, " Every single week we receive complaints about dealing with the _____ Court.

There seems to be no other option than to escalate this by filing a formal complaint.