

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 24-161

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

A justice of the peace self-reported that he was a candidate for a public office without resigning from his judicial office.

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.

After review, the Commission found that the judge was a candidate for another public office while he continued to serve as a justice of the peace. While this was improper under Rule 4.5(A) of the Code of Judicial Conduct, the Scope Section of the Code provides that not every transgression will result in the imposition of discipline. The Commission decided, after considering all the facts and circumstances, to dismiss the Complaint pursuant to Commission Rules 16(b) and 23(a), but to issue a warning letter to the judicial officer that he must resign before becoming a candidate for a nonjudicial elective office.

Commission members Denise K. Aguilar and Barbara Brown did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Dated: October 28, 2024

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ Christopher P. Staring

Hon. Christopher P. Staring
Commission Chair

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on October 28, 2024.

Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct
1501 W Washington St, Suite 229
Phoenix, AZ 85007

To the Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct,

On Wednesday afternoon, I submitted a cover letter and resume to be considered for the to finish the current term after resigned earlier in the month. The timeline to submit a was short and happened to fall during which made it difficult to consult with I hoped to help as a when no one else had yet applied for this important position. I would have only served if no one else qualified had come to the table.

After had passed, I discovered that two other qualified candidates had submitted their names for consideration. I promptly withdrew on My letter to the demonstrates my official withdrawal and was before any interviews or the mandatory . Subsequently, a employee was appointed to the position on

It has since come to my attention that applying for even though I stated I had no interest in after the might have run afoul of judicial rules. Therefore I am reporting this brief occurrence and am relaying to the Commission that I am now aware of my potential transgression and take responsibility for any perception of impropriety this might have caused.

Thank you for your consideration,