

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 24-205

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

August 30, 2024

The Complainant alleged a superior court commissioner was biased because the restitution was not ordered to be paid in a lump sum, as requested by the victims in a criminal 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 Denise K. Aguilar did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on August 30, 2024.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

2024 - 205

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.

This case involved of juveniles breaking into several RV's. At the hearing on Both and myself.. Both of us Victims... spoke to Judge about Restitution. We explained CLEARLY that we wanted Restitution awarded per ARS-8-344 in a LUMP SUM payment.. She just stared at me with a Blank look on her face. It was obvious she wasn't listening to what I had to say.

She sat there with a blank look on her face, while I spoke about how the prosecutors in the case showed more willingness to be fair to the defendant in a Plea deal than being fair and standing up for the victims!! And it was obvious Lawson didn't care about fairness to us either. She already had her sentencing statement for the defendant written out in front of her. NOTHING I said about MY request / demand for a LUMP SOME Payment meant anything. Even though ARS-8-334 Specifically states a judge can order Restitution be paid in a lump sum and I quoted that to her. Instead, she allowed herself to be swayed by the comments of the Mother and the defendant that they don't have the money to pay restitution. She victimized both and myself by siding with the defendant and mother... OVER the victims request on restitution. My voice in regards to the Plea deal were ignored. Judge showed more appeasement, leniency and fairness to the DEFENDANT and NONE to the Victims in this case. Not only are we victims of the defendant but we / I was again victimized by Judge It is very obvious that since she has worked in the past as a Public Defender, she is biased.