

State of Arizona  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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Disposition of Complaint 24-451

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Judge:

Complainant:

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**ORDER**

February 28, 2025

The Complainant alleged a superior court judge made improper rulings and did not allow her to upload her evidence into a portal in a family law 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 February 28, 2025.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

2024-451

**COMPLAINT AGAINST A JUDGE**

Name:  Judge's Name: Judge

**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.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am filing a formal complaint regarding Judge [ ] of [ ] County [ ] Court, who presided over a child custody hearing on [ ] involving [ ] and her daughter, [ ]. This complaint is submitted due to substantial concerns regarding Judge [ ]'s failure to adhere to child custody statutes, inequitable treatment during the hearing process, and a custody ruling that places the child in potential danger. Below is a detailed account of the serious concerns related to Judge [ ]'s conduct, supported by documented evidence, recent incidents, and procedural improprieties.

**Background of the Case**  
**Criminal History and Danger Posed by the Father,**

The father, [ ], has a documented history of criminal activity that meets all statutory criteria for a parent deemed unfit for custody. His record includes two recent Alcoholic in Public arrests, a DUI, and a violent arrest. The mother confirmed a sexual assault protection order for [ ] years against [ ] on [ ] just [ ] weeks before the custody hearing. Judge [ ] was fully aware. [ ] has also been investigated for clearly lying to the police, and since the ruling, two concealment charges has been filed against [ ] and [ ] for refusing to comply with the law process. Additionally, [ ] is currently under investigation for [ ] felonies in multiple states, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking. Extensive evidence of his criminal background and current investigations were available and presented to the court. Despite this, Judge [ ] granted [ ] custody of the child. [ ] has been involved to support retrieving the child for the mother, but Judge [ ] ruling has left them powerless. James used false police reports against the mother, to take the child as per threats he made previously, and police have now confirmed they were false police reports and [ ] with [ ], are being charged by the police for these crimes. Judge [ ] is aware the police report was false.

**Failure to Consider Evidence in Court**

Judge [ ] attempted to submit critical evidence to the court demonstrating the danger posed by [ ]. She reached out to Judge [ ]'s clerks frequently in the days leading up to the hearing, seeking access to submit this evidence. Despite her repeated requests, the court's evidence submission portal remained closed to her, while [ ] legal team was permitted to submit evidence without obstruction. Customer service records can confirm that Judge [ ] never authorized to submit her evidence, which constitutes a serious imbalance in procedural fairness and has impacted the case outcome. Judge [ ] went on further to embaress the mother in court, pretending like it was her fault he did not have evidence submission abilities and told her " [ ] joining in on the father who had been defaming her repeatedly.

**Recommendations from State-Funded Domestic Violence Programs**

Ignored [ ] state-funded domestic violence protection programs that are specifically designated to protect [ ] and [ ] from [ ] have documented their support for returning custody to [ ] citing the imminent risks posed by [ ]. Judge [ ] dismissed these recommendations, granting custody to [ ] despite [ ] evident distress and documented status as a trafficking and assault victim at the hands of [ ]. It has been [ ] months since Judge [ ] has responded to any motion, and [ ] lawyers have also refused to respond. It seems as though Judge [ ] is participating in the support of trafficking and should be punished as so.

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Since Judge [ ] issued the ruling, [ ] has made multiple attempts to submit additional evidence demonstrating the potential danger to her and her daughter. To date, Judge [ ] has not acknowledged these filings, raising serious concerns regarding his judicial responsiveness and oversight.

Disregard for Arizona Custody Guidelines and Potential Judicial Misconduct

Judge [ ] awarded temporary custody of [ ] to [ ] without substantiated justification that it serves the child's best interest, violating Arizona custody guidelines. [ ] had warned Judge [ ] of the risk of harm to [ ] due to [ ] motives in covering evidence of his alleged crimes, yet this was disregarded. Two concealment charges have been filed against Judge [ ] ruling and has also undermined the courts through ignoring these and failing to respond to them.

**Request for Review and Action**  
I respectfully request that your office investigate Judge [ ]'s conduct in this case for the following reasons:

**Negligence of Duty:** Failure to properly consider the dangerous background and active criminal investigations against [ ] when issuing a custody ruling despite ongoing investigations and now submissions to county attorneys for prosecution due to sufficient evidence, and confirmed sexual assault protection orders.

**Procedural Inequity:** Denial of [ ] right to submit evidence while allowing [ ] legal team to submit materials, undermining judicial fairness and due process, as confirmed by court staff.

**Failure to Protect Child Welfare:** Judge [ ]'s decision places a vulnerable child in the custody of an individual with a severe criminal background and active investigations into domestic violence and full indisputed evidence of trafficking, endangering the child's safety.

**Harassment of the Mother:** Calling her an unprofessional despite her highly professional background, as a way to make fun of her on the stand, amidst her distress of the kidnapping. Demanding the mother seek medical help, and disregarding current medical reports of sanity and safety, gaslighting the mother.

**Dereliction in Judicial Responsibility:** Unresponsiveness to [ ] filings and documented communications presenting new evidence, suggesting a failure to fulfill judicial responsibilities. Given the urgency of the situation and Judge [ ]'s deviation from Arizona's standards for child custody cases, I request that this matter be thoroughly reviewed. Appropriate disciplinary actions should be considered, including Judge [ ]'s removal from this case and possibly from other cases involving parental decision-making, if warranted.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I am available to provide further information or supporting documentation upon request.