

State of Arizona  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

---

Disposition of Complaint 25-092

---

Judge:

Complainant:

---

**ORDER**

July 11, 2025

The Complainant alleged a pro tem municipal court judge was unqualified to hear an order of protection and denied a second contested hearing.

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 members Regina L. Nassen, Delia R. Neal, and Christopher P. Staring did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on July 11, 2025.

2025-092

**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.

I am filing this complaint regarding Judge [ ] who presided over my Order of Protection case in [ ] Municipal Court on [ ] with a contested hearing on [ ]. My concerns pertain to judicial overreach, legal errors, and due process violations that have significantly impacted my legal rights and led to unjust consequences.

**1. Lack of Legal Qualifications & Judicial Overreach**

Judge [ ] is a pro tem judge who is not a licensed attorney, yet she made substantive rulings restricting my constitutional rights without properly applying Arizona law. She issued an Order of Protection without any allegations of domestic violence, violating Arizona statutes governing protective orders. Despite these procedural deficiencies, she continued to enforce and uphold the order, demonstrating judicial overreach beyond her legal authority.

**2. Due Process Violations**

The court permitted new written statements from the petitioner ( [ ] ) that were not part of the original petition, which violates due process by allowing unchallenged, late-submitted evidence. My request for a proper contested hearing was compromised because I was unable to confront the claims made against me, as required under Arizona's due process standards. On [ ], my request for a hearing to challenge the order was denied, citing Rule 38A (limiting petitioners to one hearing), despite my original hearing being procedurally defective.

**3. Legal & Procedural Errors**

The [ ] contested hearing failed to follow Arizona's legal standards, allowing improper evidence submission and depriving me of a meaningful defense. Judge [ ]'s failure to properly assess whether the legal requirements for an Order of Protection were met resulted in ongoing criminal and family law consequences against me.

**4. Ongoing Harm & Request for Investigation**

As a result of this improperly issued Order of Protection, I have faced criminal charges, probation, and legal consequences affecting my parental rights.

Judge [ ]'s judicial overreach and improper application of the law have severely impacted my ability to maintain a relationship with my children.

The improper denial of my contested hearing request continues to violate my constitutional rights.

I request that the Commission formally review Judge [ ]'s handling of my case, including her judicial overreach, due process violations, and procedural errors. This complaint is not about a judicial decision itself but about fundamental violations of law and procedure that have caused serious harm.

**Judicial Overreach and Unlawful Expansion of the Order of Protection**

Judge [ ] unlawfully expanded the scope of the Order of Protection by applying it to my younger children without naming them as protected parties. At no point were my younger children listed as protected persons in the petition, nor were they named in the court's original issuance of the Order of Protection. Despite this, the judge improperly allowed the order to restrict my access to them, effectively modifying my parental rights without due process.

This constitutes a clear violation of my constitutional rights, as I was not given proper notice, nor was I afforded an opportunity to contest their inclusion. An order cannot be enforced against individuals who were never listed as protected parties. By applying the order in this manner, Judge [ ] engaged in judicial overreach and acted outside the legal boundaries of her authority.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

**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.

Furthermore, this improper expansion has directly contributed to the ongoing parental alienation I am experiencing, as it has been used to justify withholding my children from me without any legal basis.

This action alone demonstrates a misapplication of judicial discretion and warrants immediate review and correction.

MUNICIPAL COURT

LED

CLERK OF

COURT

<b>Plaintiff</b>  V.  <b>Defendant</b>	CASE NO:	-----P <b>ORDER</b>  <b>Date Issued:</b> <b>Served:</b>
--	----------	---

This Court has determined that the transfer of this case is necessary in the interest of justice; therefore,

**IT IS ORDERED:**

**Limited Jurisdiction Court Transfer.** This case is transferred to \_\_\_\_\_ COURT OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY. CASE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**Court Transfer.** This case is transferred to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ because:  
(name of superior court)

Pursuant to Rule 35(e), Rules of Protective Order Procedure, a family law action is not pending but there is an active legal decision-making order issued by an Arizona court that involves a child of the defendant.

This court has been ordered to transfer this case to another court.

All relevant documents, together with a certified copy of docket entries or any other record in this action, shall be transferred to the Court identified above.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Judicial Officer 

**FOR USE BY LIMITED JURISDICTION COURT ONLY**

The file was transferred to the above court on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
(date) (clerk)

MUNICIPAL COURT

THE STATE OF ARIZONA, PLAINTIFF

CASE NUMBER:

NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS

VS

DEFENDANT

Judge's Initial

This being the date and time set for  Arraignment  Pre Trial  Trial  Civil Traffic  Other OP Hearing in the above cause, let the record reflect the presence of the Judge, the Clerk, the Defendant and :

Comes now the Defendant and states his / her true name as reflected herein and whose mailing address and phone number is:

The Court advised the Defendant of the charges against him / her, Defendant's Constitution Rights, including the right to remain silent, the right to counsel and the Notice of Immigration Consequence.

Defendant:  Waives the right to counsel  Informs Court of private counsel  Court denies counsel

Court appoints Public Defender: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The Defendant enters a plea of **GUILTY / NO CONTEST / RESPONSIBLE** to charge(s) of:

The Defendant pleads **NOT GUILTY / NOT RESPONSIBLE** to charge(s) of:

The Court advises Defendant of rights on Guilty / No Contest / Responsible plea, that the plea is made knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily. That there is a factual basis for the plea and the plea is hereby accepted and entered of record. Defendant having waived time for sentencing, is hereby **ORDERED** to pay a fine in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In installment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ beginning on \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ and thereafter, until paid in full.

OTHER ACTION:

Both parties are present. Parties & witnesses sworn in. Parties gave testimony. Witnesses gave testimony. Order nullified. Children of the month w/ a supervised party. Order needs to be transferred to court.

PRE TRIAL IS SET FOR: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m.

TRIAL IS SET FOR : \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m.

SENTENCING / RESTITUTION: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m.

CIVIL TRAFFIC IS SET FOR: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m.

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

Notice of Proceedings handed to Defendant with Notice of Constitutional Rights, Notice of Right to Appeal, and Notice of Immigration Consequence. (See back of form).  DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASE. Defendant given Notice.

Court Advised Defendant of Trial in absentia.

Defendant released on his / her own recognizance

DONE IN OPEN COURT THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE

DEFENDANT

SOCIAL SECURITY #: \_\_\_\_\_

MUNICIPAL COURT

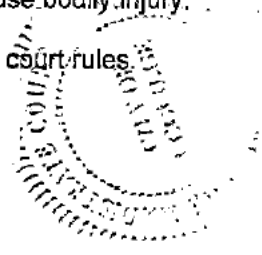
Plaintiff  v.  Defendant	CASE NO:	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOTICE OF BRADY INDICATOR</b></p> OP/IAH Issue Date:
--------------------------------------	----------	--

Under the "Brady" federal law (18 USC 922(g)(8)), the defendant is disqualified from purchasing or possessing a firearm or ammunition for the duration of the Order of Protection referenced above, based upon the following:

- The plaintiff and the defendant are intimate partners. As defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(32), "intimate partner" means with respect to a person, the spouse of a person, a former spouse of the person, an individual who is a parent of a child of the person, and an individual who lives or has lived in an intimate relationship with the person.
- The protective order was issued or affirmed after a hearing of which the defendant received actual notice and at which the defendant had an opportunity to participate.
- The defendant is subject to an Order of Protection that restrains him or her from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner or a child of an intimate partner or engaging in other conduct that would place an intimate partner in reasonable fear of bodily injury to himself or herself or to a child in common.
- The Defendant is subject to an Order of Protection that explicitly prohibits the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against such intimate partner or child that would reasonably be expected to cause bodily injury.

This notice is issued pursuant to 18 USC § 922(g)(8), which is not subject to Arizona statutes or court rules.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Judicial Officer: \_\_\_\_\_



**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMITTAL**

Copy  mailed  provided personally to Plaintiff on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
 Copy  mailed  provided personally to Defendant on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COMMISSION'S POLICY IS  
TO POST ONLY THE FIRST FIVE  
PAGES OF ANY DISMISSED  
COMPLAINT ON ITS WEBSITE.**

**FOR ACCESS TO THE  
REMAINDER OF THE  
COMPLAINT IN THIS MATTER,  
PLEASE MAKE YOUR REQUEST  
IN WRITING TO THE  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL  
CONDUCT AND REFERENCE  
THE COMMISSION CASE  
NUMBER IN YOUR REQUEST.**