

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 25-182

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

July 30, 2025

The Complainant alleged a pro tem municipal court judge showed bias towards the other side and would not let Complainant present all the evidence in a protective order 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 members Regina L. Nassen 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 30, 2025.

2025-182

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.

On _____ I had a scheduled court hearing for _____ for an order of protection that was petitioned by the defendant. During my court hearing, the judge engaged in conduct that I believe constitutes judicial misconduct. The defendant showed up _____ minutes late, and prior to her arrival, the judge stated that she typically only allows _____ minutes but stated she would make an exception for this case and gave the defendant an extra _____ minutes. I was not allowed to read from my prepared notes, which impaired my ability to fully present my side of the case. Additionally, the judge did not permit my witnesses to testify, despite their relevance and willingness to speak on my behalf. Throughout the proceedings, the judge only focused on questions related to physical contact and physical injury, disregarding other critical aspects of the case. This selective questioning and denial of basic rights to present evidence and witnesses created an unfair and biased environment, undermining the integrity of the judicial process. From my understanding, and legal counseling, Domestic Violence can be defined by emotional and psychological abuse. I submitted evidence of mental health records that clearly states i was being treated for _____ and _____ related to my previous relationship with the defendant. I presented evidence of police reports that were filed after the defendant had contacted me despite me asking her to no longer contact me. On _____ I asked the defendant to no longer contact me. On _____ the defendant contacted me asking me " _____"
" I did not reply to her. I filed for an order of protection on _____ and on _____ the order of protection was granted. The defendant again contacted me on _____ and _____ I filed the police reports associated with these dates, along with the text messages that were sent to me. According to my lawyer, this constitutes as harassment. The judge did not allow me to talk about these in detail, she only asked me if the defendant did any physical damage to my property, physically touched or harmed me. She then stated that I did not meet the requirements for an order of protection because there was no physical harm or damage and ruled in favor of the defendant. For these reasons, I believe the judge engaged in conduct that constitutes judicial misconduct.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

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