

State of Arizona  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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Disposition of Complaint 25-266

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Judge:

Complainant:

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**ORDER**

August 22, 2025

The Complainant alleged that a superior court judge was biased in the way he conducted hearings and drafted rulings.

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 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).

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on August 22, 2025.

Comp

Date:

25-266

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

**Subject: Formal Complaint Against Judge**

**Case Number:**                    –                   **County**                    **Court**

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to submit a formal complaint against the Honorable Judge                   , who presided over my divorce case (                   ) in the                   Court of                   County, Arizona.

During the final divorce hearing on                   , a court-appointed Best Interests Attorney,                   , engaged in what I perceived to be coercive, intimidating, and harassing behavior toward me while in open court.                   repeatedly addressed me by name in an insistent and aggressive manner in an apparent attempt to pressure me into agreement — a tactic that made me feel cornered and humiliated. He did not direct this same intensity or line of questioning to the opposing party.

Throughout this incident, Judge                   remained silent and allowed this conduct to continue uninterrupted. At no point did Judge                   admonish                   instruct him to redirect his line of questioning, or offer me any procedural protection or relief. As a result, I felt completely unsupported and singled out in a courtroom where judicial oversight should have ensured fairness, neutrality, and protection from inappropriate conduct.

This failure to intervene or even acknowledge the imbalance of treatment calls into question Judge                   adherence to the standards of judicial conduct, including but not limited to Canon 2 of the Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct, which requires judges to perform their duties fairly and impartially and to ensure litigants are treated with dignity and respect.

I am requesting that the Commission investigate this matter and determine whether Judge                   conduct (or lack thereof) constitutes a violation of judicial ethics and a dereliction of the duty to maintain order, neutrality, and decorum in the courtroom.

Thank you for your consideration of this complaint.

Respectfully,

- Phone

- Email

**Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct**

1501 W. Washington Street, Suite 229

Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Re: Complaint regarding Judge**

**– Case No.**

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to raise a serious concern regarding a privacy issue in my divorce case, heard by Judge . In the final decree of dissolution dated , the court included an excessive and deeply personal account of my health history.

This includes a detailed diagnosis, conflicting assessments by providers, and traumatic childhood experiences that are not only stigmatizing but now part of a publicly accessible record. I understand that health may be relevant to parenting decisions. However, I believe that the level of detail disclosed in the decree was unnecessary, harmful, and violates my right to medical privacy and dignity.

I respectfully request that your office review whether the judge's inclusion of this information adheres to judicial conduct standards regarding privacy, impartiality, and necessity.

I am also seeking to file a motion to redact or seal these portions of the decree to protect my reputation, privacy, and mental well-being.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

email

phone

**Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct**

1501 W. Washington Street, Suite 229

Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Subject:** Complaint Against Judge \_\_\_\_\_

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to file a complaint against Judge \_\_\_\_\_ who presided over my divorce case (Case No. \_\_\_\_\_, County \_\_\_\_\_ Court). I believe the court's final ruling demonstrated bias and punitive treatment rooted in my \_\_\_\_\_ health diagnosis.

Specifically:

1. The ruling emphasized my \_\_\_\_\_ health diagnosis and, despite finding that I posed no safety risk to my children, the court restricted my parenting time significantly, granting equal parenting time only during the \_\_\_\_\_. This implies that I am somehow a fit parent only seasonally, which is both illogical and discriminatory.
2. I was assigned to pay the children's private school tuition, despite being the lower wage earner. This created a financial burden I cannot reasonably meet and appears punitive in nature.
3. The child support award of \_\_\_\_\_ /month was not reflective of my financial situation or that of the higher-earning parent, \_\_\_\_\_ who earns significantly more.
4. I believe the judge demonstrated implicit bias against me due to my \_\_\_\_\_ health history, despite multiple professionals offering differing diagnoses and no evidence presented that I posed any harm to the children.

I respectfully request a review of Judge \_\_\_\_\_ conduct, particularly the role my \_\_\_\_\_ health diagnosis may have played in decisions that impact my parenting time and financial obligations. I am not questioning judicial discretion — I am questioning whether equal protection and fairness were applied to me as a parent with a documented health condition.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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

**RE: Complaint Against Judge**                      **– Case No.**

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to file a judicial conduct complaint against **Judge**                      in connection with  
my divorce case (                      , Case No.  
County                      Court).

During a court session that took place **by telephone around**                      Judge                      **did not speak to either party directly**—neither me, the Petitioner, nor the Respondent. The discussion occurred only between the judge and our respective attorneys. At no point during that hearing did the judge ask the **statutorily required reconciliation question** to determine whether the marriage was irretrievably broken or whether there was a reasonable prospect for reconciliation, as required under **A.R.S. § 25-381.09**.

This was a critical step that Arizona law mandates before moving forward with a divorce. Its purpose is to ensure that both parties are given a meaningful opportunity to affirm that reconciliation is not possible, and to establish a proper legal basis for dissolution. The judge's failure to engage with the parties directly and to make this finding on the record raises serious concerns about due process and procedural integrity.

I respectfully ask that the Commission investigate whether Judge                      violated the rules of judicial procedure by omitting this important statutory requirement. The failure to confirm the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage with the parties themselves not only violates legal safeguards but undermines public trust in the fairness of the judicial process.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to provide additional details or records upon request.

Sincerely,  
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