

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 25-274

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

October 30, 2025

The Complainant alleged a superior court judge ruled improperly in granting joint legal decision making over Complainant's child to Complainant's ex-husband.

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 Denise K. Aguilar and Colleen E. Concannon did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on October 30, 2025.

2025-274

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 complaint is submitted regarding Judge [] egregious and harmful handling of a family court custody matter in which she not only ignored Arizona statute A.R.S. § 25-403.03(A), but made findings so contrary to the evidence and her own post-hearing remarks that they amount to a complete miscarriage of judicial responsibility. Her ruling rewarded the abusive parent, endangered the child, and scapegoated the protective parent in direct conflict with the law and facts on the record.

1. BLATANT MISAPPLICATION OF A.R.S. § 25-403.03(A): Judge [] awarded joint legal decision-making despite acknowledging a valid and active Order of Protection against the Respondent, Arizona law is unequivocal: significant domestic violence or a significant history of it precludes joint custody. The judge's excuse that I, the Petitioner, " [] is a legal farce — the statute does not require repeated re-proving of what a court has already confirmed. This was not a legal gray area; it was a clear, black-and-white violation of the law. This is my second OOP in [] years against the respondent. He attempted to contest the 2nd OOP and failed. Not only was the OOP awarded to me a second time ([]) even after he tried to contest, the respondent stated in court multiple times that, " [] " so he had to speak to me in the manner that he did. I also have multiple police reports of him breaking the OOP and stating to police on record that he " [] ". All of these were submitted to Judge [] during our [] evidentiary hearing.

2. RECKLESS DISREGARD FOR EVIDENCE AND DANGEROUS FALSE EQUIVALENCY: The judge painted both parents as equally verbally abusive despite:
-Respondent being the only party with two court-issued Orders of Protection ([] and []);
-Respondent repeatedly calling Petitioner a " [] " and " [] " in written evidence;
-multiple police reports of judicial misconduct by Respondent and continual harrassment from him by calling for welfare checks on the child
-A recorded phone call (initiated by Respondent) in which he traumatized the child by discussing legal warrants and custody conflict submitted as a trial exhibit without any context and showing ZERO involvement from myself in said phone call;
-Respondent placing the child in the middle, causing her to cry and experience emotional distress all documented and submitted as evidence.
- A court interview with the child where she states she did NOT want the parenting time to change (she is [] years old)

In contrast, the judge cited the Petitioner's pre-2020 and pre OOP's, undated, context-free text messages — all submitted without authentication — to claim that I was equally to blame. The Court used this to excuse Respondent's conduct and grant him expanded parenting time and joint authority. The Court then to add insult to injury AGAIN stated in her Rule 83 ruling on [] that. "

" The Court blatantly makes this statement with ZERO evidence of this as I have never ONCE involved my child in ANY parenting communications nor has there been any evidence submitted to prove this false statement.



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3. CONTRADICTORY POST-HEARING BEHAVIOR:
 After the evidentiary hearing on _____, Judge _____ :
 Very sternly and in an accusatory tone berrated me for not coming up with a communication plan, despite the fact that an Order of Protection prohibits any communication and those orders were placed by the Court. While the Judge did not state it, her lecture to me strongly suggested that effective co-parenting might require altering or eliminating the protective order. A few minutes later she turned to the Respondent and acknowledged the Respondents communication problems and said therapy would be appropriate for him. She lectured him for about 10 minutes about the innapropriateness of his treatment of me and then stated to me that I had " _____ " and that she understood why I never wanted to speak to him again.
 Yet, in direct contradiction to those comments, she then awarded him joint decision-making authority with him having final medical say and significantly more parenting time (_____ ruling), even though the entire record showed HE was the source of the conflict and manipulation. Since the child's birth, he has never once attended or participated in ANY of her medical appointments or needs. He has never ONCE attended or inquired about any parent teacher conference. The Judge also blantly denied to acknowledge and correct any oversight on my Rule 83 motion (filed _____) in which she failed to correct the dates of the evidence produced by Respondent and made statements to those text messages as if they were recent when in fact they ocured in _____ and prior to the first OOP. She failed to acknowledge the trial exhibits presented where it is actually Respondent that to this day communicates in an innapropriate manner to the child by involving her in parenting issues and finally mentions competing OOP's which is wholly innacurate. The Judge, moreover, FAILED to acknowledge the NEW evidence that was submitted of continued hostile and manipulative emails from the Father that violate the Order. The Court fails to acknowledge these breachges or even provide meaningful relief. The Judges rulings have shown a pattern of contradictions:
 - The temporary orders filed on _____ noted that father's communications to mother were " _____ " and that his communications with the child about mother are " _____ ". The court also found that Mother's communications with Father are " _____ ". The Court further ruled on Mother being awarded full legal custody and father getting every other weekend as parenting time and acknowledged child's wishes for parenting time to "remain the same".
 - Then final orders filed on _____ provided him expanded parenting time and joing legal custody with NO basis or changed circumstances and FAILING to acknowldge Mother's sustained domestic violence committed by him and completely dismisses a _____ year old's wishes of parenting time.
 -The new evidence submitted where Respondent violated the court order was dismissed as " _____ " despite ZERO evidence of innapropriate communication from me.

4. ENDANGERING A CHILD UNDER FALSE PRETENSES OF BALANCE: Rather than protecting the minor child from the abusive parent, the judge punished the protective parent for not facilitating an unrealistic " _____ " relationship. Her ruling prioritizes appearances of shared parenting over the child's emotional and psychological safety, ignoring _____ stated wishes and thriving stability in Petitioner's care.
 Her ruling not only misapplied controlling Arizona law, but reflected a biased and unjustified effort to neutralize an abuser's history while chastising and discrediting a protective parent. This conduct undermines the integrity of the court, disrespects the purpose of protective orders, and endangers children under the guise of fairness.

Order of Protection

Amended Order

Case No.

Court ORI No.

County State

PLAINTIFF

First Middle Last

PLAINTIFF IDENTIFIERS

Plaintiff's Date of Birth

And on behalf of any minor family member or other Protected Person listed below:

V.

DEFENDANT

First Middle Last

Defendant/Plaintiff Relationship: We have a child in common.

Defendant's Address:

DEFENDANT IDENTIFIERS

SEX	RACE	DOB	HT	WT
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
EYES	HAIR	<i>Arizona Prohibits Release of Social Security Numbers</i>		
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		
DRIVER'S LICENSE #	STATE	EXP DATE		
<input type="text"/>	AZ	<input type="text"/>		

Estimated Date of Birth

CAUTION: Weapon Alleged in Petition

WARNINGS TO DEFENDANT: This order shall be enforced, even without registration, by the courts of any state, the District of Columbia, any U.S. Territory, and may be enforced by Tribal Lands (18 U.S.C. § 2265). Crossing state, territorial or tribal boundaries to violate this order may result in federal imprisonment (18 U.S.C. § 2262). Because of this order, it may be unlawful for you to possess or purchase a firearm or ammunition pursuant to federal law under 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(8) or state, tribal, territorial, or local law. If you have any questions whether these laws make it illegal for you to possess or purchase a firearm, you should consult an attorney.

Only the Court, in writing, can change this order.

Any order served on or after is in effect for two years from date of service.
Any order served before is in effect for one year from date of service.

THE COURT HEREBY FINDS THAT:

It has jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter.

Defendant received actual notice of this Hearing and had an opportunity to participate.

THE COURT, finding reasonable cause to believe that Defendant may commit an act of domestic violence or has committed an act of domestic violence within the past year (or good cause exists to consider a longer period), HEREBY ORDERS:

NO CRIMES. Defendant shall not commit any crimes, including but not limited to harassment, stalking, or conduct involving the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force that would reasonably be expected to cause bodily injury, against Plaintiff or Protected Persons.

NO CONTACT. Defendant shall have no contact with Plaintiff except through attorneys, legal process, court hearings, and as checked: Phone Electronic (email, text, etc.) Mail Other:

THE COURT FURTHER ORDERS:

RESIDENCE. Plaintiff is granted exclusive use and possession of the residence currently shared with Defendant.

LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDBY. Defendant may return once with a law enforcement officer to obtain necessary personal belongings. Neither law enforcement nor this protective order can resolve conflicts over property, title, furniture, finances, real estate, or other ownership issues.

PROTECTED LOCATIONS. Defendant shall not go to or near Plaintiff's or other Protected Person's:

Residence (confidential)

Workplace:

- Address Protected

School:

Other:

ARIZONA FIREARMS LAW. Under A.R.S. § 13-3602(G)(4), the court finds that Defendant poses a credible threat to the physical safety of Plaintiff or Protected Persons. Therefore, Defendant shall not possess, receive, or purchase firearms and shall surrender same within 24 hours of service to:

ANIMALS. Plaintiff is granted the exclusive care, custody, or control of any animal that is owned, possessed, leased, kept, or held by the plaintiff, the defendant, or a minor child residing in the residence or household of the plaintiff or the defendant. Defendant is ordered to stay away from the animal and shall not take, transfer, encumber, conceal, commit an act of cruelty or neglect in violation of section 13-2910, or otherwise dispose of the animal.

OTHER ORDERS:

Defendant shall not approach plaintiff

The Judge also grants the following requests:

- Asking for him not be allowed to call, text, email me at all or post anything on social media. He can communicate parenting plan with my daughter.



Date _____

Judicial Officer _____

/

Printed Name _____

WARNING: This is an official court order. If you disobey this order, you may be arrested and prosecuted for the crime of interfering with judicial proceedings and any other crime you may have committed in disobeying this order.

NOTICE: If you disagree with this order, you have the right to request a hearing, which will be held within 5 to 10 business days after your written request has been filed in the court that issued this order. Violations of this order should be reported to a law enforcement agency, not the court. Each party must notify this court if an action for dissolution (divorce), separation, annulment or paternity/maternity is filed. This is NOT a parenting time (visitation) or custody (legal decision-making) order. You must file those requests separately in Court.

ADDITIONAL WARNINGS TO DEFENDANT: Nothing the plaintiff does can stop, change, or undo this Order without the court's written approval. You must appear in court to ask a judge to change (modify) or dismiss (quash) this Order.

NOTICE TO PLAINTIFF: If this order gives you exclusive use and possession of the residence and you move out while this order is in effect, you must notify the court within five days of moving out of the residence.

Justice Court

Plaintiff Birth Date: _____	Defendant Address _____ AZ City, State, ZIP Code _____	Case No. _____
		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">This is <u>not</u> a court order.</div> <p>PETITION for <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Injunction Against Harassment <input type="checkbox"/> Workplace Injunction</p>

DIRECTIONS: Please read the Plaintiff's Guide Sheet before filling out this form.

1. Defendant/Plaintiff Relationship: Married now or in the past Live together now or lived together in the past Child in common One of us pregnant by the other Related (parent, in-law, brother, sister or grandparent) Romantic or sexual relationship (current or previous) Dating but not a romantic or sexual relationship Other:

2. If checked, there is a pending court case involving maternity, paternity, annulment, legal separation, dissolution, legal decision making (custody), parenting time or support in _____ county.

Case #: _____

3. Have you or the Defendant been charged or arrested for domestic violence OR requested a Protective Order?
 Yes No Not sure

If yes or not sure, explain:

4. I need a Court Order because: (PRINT both the dates and a brief description of what happened):

Date(s) Tell the judge what happened and why you need this order. A copy of this petition is provided to the defendant when the order is served.

I am entitled to an Order of Protection because _____ has repeatedly harassed me through abusive, threatening communications and threatening to make false reports against me. He is also harrasing my husband _____ His conduct has been directed specifically at me and my husband and is intended to harass and has in fact caused me to be seriously alarmed, annoyed, humiliated and mentally distressed. ARS §13-2921 Because _____ cannot and will not communicate in a safe, appropriate, non-harassing manner, I am asking for zero contact. I am the primary residential parent and have final decision-making authority. We have an established schedule for his parenting time and exchanges and I have legal counsel, therefore zero contact will not frustrate his parenting time or parenting rights. _____ sent me harassing and abusive messages. _____ texted: "

text: " _____ " He texted: " _____ I replied via _____ sent my husband _____ texted: " _____

texted back: " _____ replied back: " _____

" _____

**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.**