

State of Arizona  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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Disposition of Complaint 25-335

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Judge:

Complainant:

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**ORDER**

October 24, 2025

The Complainant alleged a municipal court judge was biased in a protective order 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 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 Colleen E. Concannon did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on October 24, 2025.

2025-335

**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 submitting this complaint regarding Judge [ ] and her conduct during the hearing on concerning my order of protection against the defendant, my mother.

First, in the documents I received on [ ] notifying me of the hearing, it clearly stated that the defendant was to abide by the terms of the order of protection during the hearing, which includes no contact with me. However, during the hearing (which began around [ ]), after I provided my evidence and the defendant was given an opportunity to respond, she spoke directly to me several times—not during the portion of the hearing where we were instructed to ask each other questions, but when she was making her own statements. This was in direct violation of the order, yet the judge allowed it to happen. In a protective order case, a defendant speaking directly to the plaintiff is not only inappropriate, but retraumatizing, and the judge's failure to intervene can be considered judicial misconduct. Furthermore, the judge allowed the defendant to go on multiple tangents throughout the hearing. Although I was told I would have "the last word," the defendant continued to speak after me multiple times without the judge intervening. This unnecessarily prolonged the hearing and gave the defendant more opportunity to dominate the conversation.

In addition, the defendant made several statements that were irrelevant, contradictory, didn't make sense, or were unsupported by evidence. For example, she claimed I " [ ] " on [ ] rather than being pushed, and denied that the voice in audio recordings from [ ] and [ ] was hers (despite her distinctive accent) only to later state it " [ ] ." The judge did not question the contradictions or the lack of evidence from the defendant's side, nor did she address the inconsistency of the defendant's narrative. What's most concerning is that the judge appeared to dismiss the severity of the situation by framing it as a minor " [ ] ," despite multiple documented instances of harassment and boundary violations. Instead of evaluating the case objectively and prioritizing my right to feel safe, the judge openly sympathized with the defendant " [ ] ." This is not appropriate judicial conduct in a protective order hearing, where one needs to act objectively.

Ultimately, the hearing shifted away from the evidence and the legal basis for protection, and instead turned into something resembling a family counseling session. I presented clear evidence—text messages, emails, call logs, and audio recordings—demonstrating a pattern of harassment and unwanted contact, which was not given proper weight by the judge. I am filing this complaint because I believe the judge failed to maintain neutrality, allowed violations of the protective order to occur in real time, and minimized the serious nature of my concerns for safety. The defendant still knows my place of work, and I do not want her to find out where I live, and without the protective order in place, I no longer feel safe, and I feel that my right to feel safe was completely dismissed.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

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