

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 25-524

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

January 23, 2026

The Complainant alleged a superior court judge made improper rulings and was biased in a family law matter.

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 Michael J. Brown and Colleen E. Concannon did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on January 23, 2026.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

2025-524

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.

— See attached Docs

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

Re: Complaint Against Judge

/ Case No.

Date:

To Whom It May Concern:

I, _____, respectfully submit this formal complaint against Judge _____ regarding his conduct and rulings in the above-referenced matter before the Arizona Family Court. This complaint is predicated upon several substantive and procedural irregularities that, in my view, undermine the fairness and integrity of the judicial process.

I. Contradictory and Unsupported Findings

On _____, Judge _____ issued an order containing factual findings that are internally inconsistent and unsupported by the record. Specifically, the Court stated that “

” Nevertheless, the written order inexplicably awarded Respondent _____ in attorney’s fees, without providing any explanation or legal justification for this departure from the stated findings. The order fails to reconcile its conclusions with the financial affidavits (AFIs) and oral statements presented during the hearing. Notably, the Petitioner failed to submit her complete AFIs, which further calls into question the accuracy and fairness of the Court’s determination.

II. Omission and Mischaracterization of Evidence

Judge _____ order asserts that I acted unreasonably by failing to comply with the Court’s _____ directive to sign a release of records to _____. This assertion is demonstrably false. I possess documentation and receipts confirming that the required records were submitted to the Court, the attorney, and the Court Appointed Advisor (CAA) as ordered.

These materials were presented as evidence during the hearing but were either overlooked or omitted from consideration in the Court’s ruling.

Additionally, I provided certificates and records evidencing my and my son’s participation in individual and family therapy, which were submitted to both the attorney and the CAA. Despite this, the Court erroneously found that I did not attend therapy or

provide the requisite notes, further demonstrating a disregard for the evidence on record.

III. Disparate Treatment and Denial of Child Support

The Court's order references discrepancies in income between the parties, yet denied my request for child support without adequate explanation. This decision appears arbitrary and discriminatory and is inconsistent with the principles of fairness that govern family court proceedings in Arizona.

IV. Conclusion

The cumulative effect of these contradictions, omissions, and unsupported findings constitutes a violation of the duty of fairness owed to all parties in family court proceedings. I was held to a higher standard than other participants in the hearing regarding interpretation of court orders, and the Court's actions have resulted in an unjust and biased outcome. I respectfully request that the Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct investigate these matters and take appropriate corrective action.

Respectfully submitted,

_____ Date: _____

EVIDENCE / DOCUMENTS OMITTED ATTACHED

1. Court Order; _____, the Judge claims under **“Factual Findings”**
2. **Court Order; A.R.S. 25-403 B;** _____, the Judge claims that the
“
_____”.
3. Court Order; _____; As to Counseling; **See Certificate of Completion**
in #6.
4. Court Order; _____; **Under it is further Ordered.** I released the
records, but the CAA never opened them. Mailed _____ see #5
5. **US Postal Service Receipts** where the “Therapy Notes” were released and
mailed directly to _____ & _____.
6. **Three (3) Certificates of attending Family Therapy.**

#1

to the assets and/or income of each party; (5) the degree with which the property division impacts the financial disparity; (6) the ability of the party against whom the fee award is sought to bear the burden of paying the opposing party's fees; and (7) similar matters that are encompassed within the function of assessing the financial resources of the parties.

B. Reasonableness of Positions

The intent behind the reasonableness of position provision of the statute is to discourage a party from unnecessarily expanding or extending the proceedings or through unreasonable positions or actions, caused the other party to incur significant additional fees. The propriety of legal positions taken is to be "evaluated by an objective standard of reasonableness." *In re the Marriage of Williams*, 219 Ariz. 546, 549 (2008). It is not to be assessed "with reference to a litigant's intentions in taking that position. *Id.*



Factual Findings

The Court has considered the relevant evidence and information. The Court finds that an award of attorney fees is not warranted based on a disparity in income between the parties. The Court finds that Father acted unreasonably in this matter by failing to comply with the Court's order that he sign a release of records to

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED awarding Mother a portion of her reasonable attorney fees incurred in connection with this petition. Counsel for Mother shall file and serve a *China Doll* affidavit itemizing these fees on or before _____ Father may submit a response or objection thereto by _____, following which the Court will rule on the issue of fees without further hearing or argument.

FINAL APPEALABLE ORDER

The Court must decide the amount of attorney's fees and costs to be awarded but finds there is no just reason to delay making a final order.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED pursuant to Rule 78(b), Arizona Rules of Family Law Procedure, that this is a final judgment/decree, and it shall be entered by the Clerk. The time for appeal begins upon entry of this judgment by the Clerk. For more information on appeals, see Rule 8 and other Arizona Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure.

**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.**