

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 25-572

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

February 11, 2026

The Complainant alleged a superior court commissioner was discriminatory and biased in a family law 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 Colleen E. Concannon and Regina L. Nassen did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on February 11, 2026.

2025-572

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.

Statement of Complaint

I am filing this complaint against Commissioner [] for conduct that I believe violates the Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct. Specifically, I allege discriminatory treatment based on my disabilities and the imposition of unconstitutional fines that fail to consider my limited financial means and disability-related hardships.

Background:

On or about [insert date(s)], during proceedings in [case name/number], Commissioner [briefly describe the type of hearing — e.g., traffic, civil, family, etc.]. During this proceeding, I informed the court of my disabilities and my limited income. Despite providing this information, Commissioner [describe what happened — e.g., dismissed your explanations, made discriminatory remarks, refused reasonable accommodation, imposed excessive fines, or otherwise treated you unfairly].

Allegations:

Discrimination Based on Disability:
Commissioner [] failed to reasonably accommodate or take into account my disabilities, in violation of both the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct, Rule 2.3, which prohibits bias or prejudice based on disability.

Unconstitutional and Excessive Fines:
Commissioner [] imposed fines and/or financial penalties that were excessive and did not consider my limited income, violating Rule 2.2 (Fairness and Impartiality) and my constitutional right to due process and equal protection. Courts are required to consider a litigant's ability to pay before imposing fines that could lead to undue hardship or punishment for poverty.

Failure to Maintain Dignity and Respect:
Commissioner [] demeanor and comments during the hearing reflected a lack of respect and empathy for individuals with disabilities, contrary to Rule 2.8 (Decorum, Demeanor, and Communication).

Harm Suffered:

As a result of Commissioner [] conduct, I have experienced [describe harm — e.g., financial hardship, emotional distress, or barriers to justice]. The actions taken against me have undermined my confidence in receiving fair and impartial treatment from the court system.
discrimination against individuals with disabilities and economically disadvantaged litigants.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

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Relief Requested:

I respectfully request that the Commission investigate Commissioner _____ conduct for potential violations of the Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct, particularly Rules 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.8. I also request that appropriate disciplinary or corrective measures be taken to prevent further discrimination against individuals with disabilities and economically disadvantaged litigants.