

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 25-619

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

The Complainant alleged a superior court judge was biased and displayed improper conduct on the bench.

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.

After review, the Commission found that the judge made comments of questionable relevance, made an improper choice of words that was insensitive and demeaning, and failed to communicate appropriately. While these actions were improper under Rule 1.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, the Scope Section of the Code provides that not every transgression will result in the imposition of discipline. The Commission decided, after considering all the facts and circumstances, to dismiss the Complaint pursuant to Commission Rules 16(b) and 23(a), but to issue a confidential warning letter to the judicial officer to reflect on his choice of words and ways in which to convey his insights to litigants.

Dated: June 9, 2026

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ Christopher P. Staring

Hon. Christopher P. Staring
Commission Chair

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on June 9, 2026.

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

Comp
25-619

Judicial Conduct Complaint

Complaint Against:

Judge

County - Child Support Court

Complainant:

Name:

Case:

Hearing Date:

Statement of Judicial Misconduct

I am filing this complaint to report serious misconduct, bias, and unethical behavior displayed by Judge _____ during my child support hearing on _____. His conduct was hostile, prejudicial, racially insensitive, and entirely inconsistent with the standards required of an Arizona judicial officer and violated my constitutional right to fair and impartial proceedings under the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause.

1. Hostile and Biased Behavior Without Provocation

From the beginning of the hearing, Judge _____ demonstrated hostility toward me with no provocation. His tone, comments, and handling of the proceeding created a clear appearance that I was being treated as lesser and unworthy of impartial judicial treatment.

2. Improper and Inaccurate Legal Advice to the Defendant

Judge _____ advised the defendant -the father who has never met our child in _____ years- that:

“ ”

This statement was not only legally inaccurate in the context of a parent who has had zero involvement, but it signaled clear favoritism. Judges are prohibited from advising litigants or creating the appearance of advocacy for one party.

3. Directing the Defendant to File Parenting Time Orders and Delaying Child Support

Judge _____ instructed the defendant to serve me with family court parenting time orders and then deliberately delayed the child support ruling by _____, stating this would give the defendant “_____” me.

This conduct is inappropriate, prejudicial, and demonstrates a misuse of judicial authority to benefit one litigant over another.

4. Disparaging Comment Directed at Me and My Family

During the hearing, Judge stated:

“ ”

while directing this remark toward me and my family seated in the courtroom.

This was unprofessional, degrading, and entirely unacceptable from a judicial officer.

5. Forcing Me to Disclose My Home Address on Public Record

The judge required me to state my full home address in open court, despite the fact that:

- the respondent has never met our child in years,
- I have no personal information about him, and

– I expressed safety and privacy concerns.

This order placed me in fear for my safety and invaded my privacy without any legitimate justification. It reflects recklessness and disregard for a litigant's safety.

6. Racially Charged and Culturally Insensitive Remarks

Toward the end of the hearing, the judge stated:

“ ”

Referring to a future scheduled court date, suggesting assumptions about my ethnicity, race, language, and family structure.

These comments were racially insensitive, entirely inappropriate, and have no place in any courtroom. The judge does not have any knowledge of my background, race, ethnicity, or spoken languages. This comment was demeaning, discriminatory, and contributed to the hostile environment he created.

7. Witnesses and Evidence

Both the court recorder and bailiff heard these remarks, and I have additional personal witnesses who attended the hearing. I am currently in the process of obtaining the official audio recording from the court and expect to receive it within 7 days and can provide the audio upon request.

Violations of the Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct

Judge actions violate:

- Canon 1
- Canon 2
- Rule 2.2
- Rule 2.3
- Rule 2.6

- Rule 2.8
- Rule 2.10
- Rule 2.11
- Fourteenth Amendment Due Process

Request for Investigation

I respectfully request a full investigation into Judge _____ conduct.

I certify this statement is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Date: _____