

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 26-018

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

May 26, 2026

The Complainant alleged a municipal court judge excluded evidence, accepted biased testimony, and allowed the other party time to organize exhibits in an order of protection 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).

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on May 26, 2026.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

2026-018

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.

On _____, a Judge approved an Order of Protection against me, filed by my former boyfriend, _____ (Case No. _____). I subsequently filed a request for a hearing to dismiss the Order of Protection. On _____, the same Judge ruled that the Order of Protection would remain in place.

During the _____ hearing, I observed biased conduct by the Judge that undermined the fairness and integrity of the proceedings, as detailed below.

Denial of Affidavit Evidence

The Judge denied the admission of an Affidavit (Exhibit 2) submitted by my older son, _____. In his Affidavit, my son confirmed scam-related actions committed by _____ and described the harm caused to my family, including myself and my two sons. He stated that he supported me during _____ attacks that occurred immediately following the breakup and confirmed that I had never experienced _____ attacks prior to my relationship with _____. Additionally, my son confirmed that _____ took several loans from me and failed to repay them. He further stated that _____ pressured me to sell my home, rehome my dog, move to _____, and revise the parenting plan involving my younger son as conditions for continuing the relationship, only to abruptly terminate the relationship without justification. These actions placed me in a state of shock and that persists and directly contributed to my sending hostile emails to _____.

My son's Affidavit also confirms that the information I shared with mutual acquaintances was truthful and, therefore, cannot reasonably be characterized as harassment or damage to _____ reputation.

Acceptance of Biased Witness Testimony

The Judge accepted testimony from _____ daughter, _____. _____ asked his daughter to move out of his apartment so that he could reside with me, which caused resentment and hostility toward me. _____ is approximately _____ years old and demonstrated a hostile attitude fueled by jealousy and animosity.

_____ is an interested and biased party and had no direct knowledge of, or evidence regarding, events that occurred between _____ and me following the breakup. Despite this lack of firsthand knowledge, her testimony was accepted.

Unequal Allocation of Hearing Time

The Judge allowed _____ an additional _____ minutes to organize and number his exhibits during the hearing, which reduced the time available for me to present my case. The Judge announced that she would allow additional time during the _____-hour hearing for both parties to organize their exhibits. This statement was inappropriate, as my exhibits were already organized, numbered, and properly submitted to the Court. I did not require additional time.

Upon returning from the break, the Judge provided _____ with corrective and instructional guidance regarding his responsibility to organize his paperwork. The Judge also pointed to the clock and reminded both parties to be mindful of time, stating that she was only available until _____.

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Additional Limitations Imposed by the Judge

The Judge prohibited me from contacting our mutual acquaintances.

2.1. The Protective Order relates solely to . The Judge explicitly stated that she could not accept allegations regarding my alleged contact with mutual acquaintances, as the Protective Order applies only to directly. However, despite this acknowledgment, the Judge verbally requested that I refrain from contacting our mutual acquaintances. This is unreasonable, as I am friends with some of our mutual acquaintances.

2.2. This request was communicated verbally and was not included in any written order. The Judge further stated that if I were to contact our mutual acquaintances, she would consider this in future proceedings.

2.3. This limitation exceeds the scope of the Protective Order, which applies only to and does not lawfully extend to third parties.

2.4. Any information shared with mutual acquaintances was truthful. Many of these individuals expressed gratitude for the information shared, stating that " , " while others acknowledged that such conduct was " " by the Respondent.

2.5. Although the Judge accepted Exhibit 3 (correspondence with mutual acquaintances), the exhibit was not reviewed. Instead, the Judge applied this evidence against me as alleged harassment of third parties. In reality, only one text message was sent to each recipient, containing only truthful information. No harassment occurred. Most mutual acquaintances expressed appreciation for the communication.

The judge declined to consider the facts presented in support of my retaliation claim.

filed the Protective Order in retaliation for my filing of a civil action against him in the County Consolidated Justice Court and for sharing truthful information with our mutual friends. I presented to the judge a sequence of events and timing that indicate the filing was retaliatory and intended to prevent me from seeking lawful remedies. Moreover, himself confirmed during the hearing that he " , " but when I began contacting mutual acquaintances, he decided to proceed with the Protective Order.

The judge did not accept Exhibit 1 (Complaint, Case No.) into evidence, which shows that the facts shared with mutual acquaintances were truthful. These text messages were intended to warn mutual acquaintances about conduct. These text messages were not intended to harass recipients or mis present .