

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 26-034

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

A superior court commissioner self-reported a delayed ruling in a criminal 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 reviewed all relevant available information and concluded there was not clear and convincing evidence of ethical misconduct in this matter. The Commission approved sending the judicial officer a confidential advisory letter reminding of the duty to issue rulings timely under Rules 1.1 and 2.5(A) of the Code of Judicial Conduct, along with Art. 2, §11, and Art. 6, §21 of the Arizona Constitution. The complaint is therefore dismissed pursuant to Commission Rules 16(b) and 23(a).

Commission member Delia R. Neal did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

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.

Attachments: [image001.png](#)

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject: Comm. Self-Report

Good evening:

This is a self-report of a delinquent decision assigned to Commissioner of the County Superior Court. On , in a Petition to expunge a marijuana-related conviction was filed in I County Superior Court. The Clerk's Office emailed the Petition to my judicial assistant. Unfortunately, I was not directly informed of this Petition. My Judicial Assistant receives hundreds of emails in a day. My division is currently assigned to and court, court, court, and court. My judicial assistant at the time, having prior.

Since then, she has learned the importance of ensuring that I become aware of these requests. We have made significant improvements in our processes to ensure that these matters are not missed. I have requested that the clerk's office provide a hard copy of filings to my division in addition to sending email notifications. I have provided my judicial assistant with directions for creating rules in outlook to identify and separate these types of emails. I am aware this responsibility falls on me and I will work to ensure that we are better able to avoid these deficiencies in the future. When I signed certifications stating that I did not have any delinquent decisions, I was unaware of this matter.

I am aware that Code of Judicial Conduct Rule 2.5 requires that I must perform "judicial and administrative duties competently, diligently, and promptly." I am also aware the comment to Rule 2.5 requires that I "seek the necessary docket time, court staff, expertise, and resources to discharge all adjudicative and administrative responsibilities. . . ." I am further aware that "[a] judge should monitor and supervise cases in ways that reduce or eliminate dilatory practices, avoidable delays, and unnecessary costs."

I am sorry that I did not address this Petition in a timely manner. I will work diligently to ensure that I have processes in place to avoid this mistake in the future. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Superior Court Commissioner
County Superior Court
Phone:

. Judicial Assistant

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