

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 10-048

Complainant: No. 1386610509A

Judge: No. 1386610509B

ORDER

The complainant alleged that a justice of the peace asked observers sitting in the gallery if someone would volunteer to serve as an interpreter for a non-English speaking defendant. The commission found no clear violation of the code and decided to dismiss the complaint with an advisory letter reminding the judge to follow court policies and procedures for obtaining interpreters and to comply with Rule 1.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, which requires a judge to promote confidence in the judiciary. The complaint is dismissed pursuant to Rules 16(b) and 23.

Dated: June 15, 2010.

FOR THE COMMISSION

\s\ Keith Stott

J. William Brammer, Jr.
Commission Chair

Copies of this order were mailed to the complainant and the judge on June 15, 2010.

This order may not be used as a basis for disqualification of a judge.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

2010-048

COMPLAINT AGAINST A JUDGE

Your name: _____ Judge's name: _____ Date: _____

Instructions: You can use this form or plain paper of the same size to file a complaint. Please describe in your own words what the judge did that you believe constitutes judicial misconduct. Be specific and list all of the names, dates, times and places that will help us understand your concerns. You may attach additional pages but not original court documents. Print or type on one side of the paper only, and keep a copy of the complaint for your files.

Incident DATE: Dec. 18, 2009 Incident time: Approx. 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM
My witness to my statement is the official court recording
for Dec 18, 2009, at Pima County Justice Court, Precinct 70

I was a spectator in the courtroom on stated date and time.
I witnessed Justice/Peace _____ in regular conduct in a
"Hispanic Male" case before her. I don't know his name.
The "Hispanic Male" case has no connection or relevance to
ME in any way.

My statement:
Judge _____ queried the courtroom spectators for a volunteer
interpreter for the "Hispanic Male" before her.
He didn't speak English.
No one volunteered.

Judge _____ again queried the courtroom spectators,
saying (or paraphrasing) "Would someone like to make
a new friend today and be an interpreter for the
"Hispanic Male"?"

A young man came forward from courtroom spectators
area and Judge _____ let him be the court interpreter.
Judge _____ then adjudicated the "Hispanic Male" case.

Questions I have are as follows:
Where was a court employed interpreter?
Did "Hispanic Male" really know his rights?

(Attach additional sheets as needed)

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Was integrity of proceedings compromised?
What did the interpreter really say?
What did "Hispanic Male" really understand and agree to?
How many other cases have been handled this way?
I Emphatically believe the "Hispanic Males" Right to a FAIR hearing of his case was severely violated.
Thank you for your Attention in this matter!

(Attach additional sheets as needed)