#### State of Arizona

### COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 14-357

#### **ORDER**

The complainant alleged a superior court judge made delayed and improper rulings in a civil case.

The responsibility of the Commission on Judicial Conduct is to impartially determine if the judge engaged in conduct that violated the provisions of Article 6.1 of the Arizona Constitution or the Code of Judicial Conduct and, if so, to take appropriate disciplinary action. The purpose and authority of the commission is limited to this mission.

The commission does not have jurisdiction to review the legal sufficiency of the judge's rulings. In addition, the commission found no evidence of ethical misconduct and concluded that the judge did not violate the Code in this case. The commission approved sending the judge a private advisory letter to review Formal Advisory Ethics Opinion 06-02 (Prompt Disposition of Judicial Matters) and to implement procedures to avoid delays in ruling. The complaint is dismissed pursuant to Rules 16(b) and 23(a).

Dated: February 5, 2015

Judge:

Complainant:

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ Louis Frank Dominguez
Hon. Louis Frank Dominguez
Commission Chair

Copies of this order were mailed to the complainant and the judge on February 5, 2015.

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

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

Complainant

is the Plaintiff in Superior Court Case No.

assigned to

County Superior Court Judge

In this complaint against Judge , Complainant requests that the Commission on Judicial Conduct investigate severe violations of Canon 1 and Canon 2 of Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct and take appropriate actions under Article 6.1 of Arizona Constitution.

### **Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct Canon 1**

A judge shall uphold and promote the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary, and shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety.

# **Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct Canon 2**

A judge shall perform the duties of judicial office impartially, competently, and diligently.

ISSUE: Ignored the law and issued rulings based on bias and prejudice against the Complainant

- I. Refused to issue Rulings at all if the Ruling is in favor of the Complainant;
- II. Ruled in favor of the opposing party despite the opposing party filing late filings or no filings at all;
- III. Refused to take any disciplinary action against the opposing party despite severe violations by the party proven by the Complainant, including presenting forged and manufactured documents as evidence in court and assaulting the Complainant in court in the presence of Judge
  - I. Refused to issue Rulings at all if the Ruling is in favor of the Complainant:

On Judge heard oral arguments regarding Complainant's inability to pay the appeals bond (see Exhibit A). The Judge never even issued a Ruling whatsoever despite the Complainant clearly proving that he could not afford to pay the appeals bond.

II. Ruled in favor of the opposing party despite the opposing party filing late filings or no filings at all:

Despite late or even absent filings, Judge decided to accept the opposing party's filings and Ruled in their favor (<u>see Exhibit B</u>).

III. Refused to take any disciplinary action against the opposing party despite severe violations by the party proven by the Complainant, including presenting forged and manufactured documents as evidence in court and assaulting the Complainant in court in the presence of Judge

Despite Complainant proving to Judge that the opposing party presented forged documents in court as evidence and assaulted the Complainant in front of the Judge in court, Judge failed to take any disciplinary action. Instead, Judge decided to threaten the Complainant with sanctions for filing valid and rightful motions (see Exhibit C).

## **CONCLUSION**

In light of the above, Complainant requests that the Commission on Judicial Conduct investigate severe violations of Canon 1 and Canon 2 of Arizona Code of

Judicial Conduct and take appropriate actions under Article 6.1 of Arizona Constitution.

Complainant