State of Arizona

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 14-361

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

The complainant alleged a civil traffic hearing officer improperly ruled against him and inappropriately did independent research in a case.

The responsibility of the Commission on Judicial Conduct is to impartially determine if the hearing officer 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 hearing officer's rulings. While the commission found that the hearing officer did engage in independent research, the research was minor in nature and an extension of in-court testimony. The commission approved sending the hearing officer a private advisory letter reminding her of her obligation under Rule 2.9(C) not to engage in any independent research or investigation of the facts of a case. The complaint is dismissed pursuant to Rules 16(b) and 23(a).

Dated: February 5, 2015

FOR THE COMMISSION

<u>/s/ Louis Frank Dominguez</u> Hon. Louis Frank Dominguez Commission Chair

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

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

2014-361

COMPLAINT AGAINST A JUDGE

Your name:

udge's name:

_ Date:

Instructions: Use this form or plain paper of the same size to file a complaint. Attach additional pages, as needed. Please describe in your own words what the judge said or did that you believe constitutes judicial misconduct. To help us understand your concern, be specific and list all of the names, dates, times and places where the conduct occurred. Include only copies of original documents or court recordings that are relevant to your allegations. Print or type on ope-side of the paper only, and keep ecopy of the complaint for your files.

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(Attach additional sheets as needed)

2014-361) The officer attempted to acquire an accurate reading when he and the driver were moring in opposite directions. The reading was attempted at 1000 ft. which compromises the accuracy of a reading. The purther from the source (cone of the weaker the reaching, and distortion can occur (Die Docc) (2) attempting an accurate reading can be compromised by high tension powerlines which was the case in question this day. See ()oc D) interference can be generated from anyone of these bources listed or a multiple of these sources. 3) Radar devices are to be calibrated (all radar duries) completed on a regular basis) Init makas dinon to nooper refers to the Old Bait & Switch Game as not all radar devices are calibrated, but used as though

NOV 17 2014 2014-361 they had been calibrated, and using them to site motorists with tickets. This is unacceptable behavior for any and all law enforcement. There is absolutely no widence that this specific I radar device had been properly calibrated or that the office in question knew how to operate a hadar device. Fishanch, so aptly claims, · conducted the, would have encountered the same research material I submit to you. See DOCE) The officer in court proceedings that day made erroneous statements. Befor to the tape if you have The officer claimed departed the site where he wrote the ticket at 15 mph. Beally how so? One has to gain f momentum. you do not get.

2014-361 to 15 mph from a diad start. He said he had recalibrated the radar device to detect no mph by calibrating halfway he officer claimed to know the isnota icen Shank you Cases to substantiate in accuracy