

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 18-272

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

A justice of the peace self-reported inadvertent use of court staff in political campaign activity.

The responsibility of the Commission on Judicial Conduct is to impartially determine if a judicial 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.

After review, the commission found no evidence of ethical misconduct and concluded that the judicial officer did not violate the Code in this case. Accordingly, the complaint is dismissed in its entirety, pursuant to Rules 16(a) and 23(a).

Commission members George H. Foster, Jr., Diane M. Johnsen and J. Tyrrell Taber did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Dated: November 7, 2018

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on November 7, 2018.

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

From:

Sent

To: Commission on Judicial Conduct <CommissionJudicialCo@courts.az.gov>

Cc:

Subject: Self-Reporting incident

To Whom It May Concern;

This is Judge [REDACTED] with the [REDACTED] Court. I had an individual contact my court directly concerning a political sign they wanted moved. My staff member took a message and passed it on to me. I spoke to all parties and made it clear in the future staff should refer all political to the [REDACTED], where someone with a political issue may leave a message. Prior to this incident I did not have a policy in place. Please advise if you need additional details, or if this is sufficient for self-reporting.