

State of Arizona  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

---

Disposition of Complaint 11-158

---

Complainant: No. 1420710934A

Judge: No. 1420710934B

---

**ORDER**

The complainant alleged that a pro tem superior court judge was impatient and intolerant and already had her mind made up without giving him a fair opportunity to be heard. After reviewing the allegations and listening to the recording of the hearing, the commission found no evidence of ethical misconduct on the part of the judge. Accordingly, the complaint is dismissed in its entirety pursuant to Rules 16(a) and 23.

Dated: September 14, 2011.

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ George Riemer

---

George A. Riemer  
Executive Director

Copies of this order were mailed to the complainant and the judge on September 14, 2011.

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

June 7, 2011

To: State of Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct

I am writing to provide you some information regarding my recent court appearance in front of Judge \_\_\_\_\_ in Yavapai County Superior Court, Division Pro Tem A. She is recently new to the bench, and her judicial demeanor and temperament are completely lacking. She conducts herself with arrogance, impatience and intolerance to the point of appearing prejudiced against the party she has already decided to rule against.

She has no experience in domestic relations yet she conducts herself as if she knows everything, to the point it seems she has made her decision regarding the issue before her before she even hears the case.

I have a pension which was ordered to be divided in my dissolution in 2008, but which I am not eligible to receive until I am 62 years of age, in 2014. My ex-wife and I were pro per, although we did have an attorney assist us in preparing the paperwork. We did not proceed with the preparation of the QDRO at that time however, as there was no urgency to get it done.

Obviously, my ex-wife decided recently to complete the QDRO and hired an attorney named Popp to assist her. Mr. Popp failed to contact my former employer to obtain a form QDRO or instructional pamphlet they provide, or to ask me to obtain it.

I had several questions about some of the language that Mr. Popp included in his self-drafted QDRO that I thought were confusingly written or completely inappropriate, as some of it did not seem to have any application to my pension. However, Mr. Popp refused to explain the need for the language or what it even meant.

I then contacted my former employer and obtained the form QDRO and instructional pamphlet without difficulty or delay, and without incurring substantial attorney fees in the process. I also refused to approve the form of QDRO Mr. Popp wished to file with the court and Mr. Popp requested court intervention. Hence our appearance in front of Judge

When she emerged from her chambers she gruffly asked "why are we dealing with the QDRO two years later?" in an almost accusatory tone which I felt was directed toward me, as if it were my fault.

She asked Mr. Popp how much time he would need for a hearing, he replied 15 minutes, but she never even looked at me or asked me what I wanted.

At the next hearing, I requested to make a statement for the record (because of the way she has treated me at the last hearing). She said go ahead and then interrupted me seconds later and never let me finish what I wanted to say.

She obviously had her mind made up and was ready to rule before she even took the bench, and

treated me with contempt the entire time.

I didn't do anything wrong. Mr. Popp should have known to request the form QDRO and instructional pamphlet from my former employer at little to no cost, and we would have never had this problem he created by making up his own form, obviously trying to include language that may be inappropriate, and not what was agreed to between my ex-wife and I in the dissolution. For this judge to treat me the way she did, when all I was trying to do was question the accuracy of, and need for, some particular language Mr. Popp included in his made-up QDRO, was uncalled for, rude, highly inappropriate, and appeared to be prejudicial and highly improper under the circumstances.

Her conduct gave me the impression that she had already communicated directly with Mr. Popp about this case, and any input I had was a waste of time and irrelevant.

I am a business owner in Prescott, and was frankly insulted and offended by the way she treated me, which nobody should be treated like that by a member of the judiciary in this state or any other state.

Please investigate what I feel is judicial misconduct in this case, as an individual that conducts herself like this as a superior court judge should be removed from the bench.

Respectfully,