

State of Arizona  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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Disposition of Complaint 11-182

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Complainant: No. 1422810257A

Judge: No. 1422810257B

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**ORDER**

The complainant alleged that a pro tem superior court judge mishandled her dissolution and custody case, engaged in ex parte communications, failed to disqualify himself, and denied her the opportunity to explain her position on various issues.

The responsibility of the Commission on Judicial Conduct is to impartially determine if the judge engaged in conduct that violated 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 thoroughly reviewing all of the information provided by the complainant, the judge's response, and the recordings of the hearings, the members of the commission found no evidence of ethical misconduct and concluded that the judge did not violate the Code in this case. Accordingly, the complaint is dismissed in its entirety pursuant to Rules 16(a) and 23.

Dated: October 7, 2011

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ George Riemer

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George A. Riemer  
Executive Director

Copies of this order were mailed to the complainant and the judge on October 7, 2011.

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

I would first like to apologize for the following lengthy description of events. This is my best effort to accurately describe the issues and offenses that the judge in this case is responsible for.

In Navajo County there are 3 Court Officers. One of them is named Mike Stump. The Court Officers are personally responsible for the security of the judges. There are 4 judges including One of the Court Officers, Charlie, is always at his post at the security desk at the main entrance to the facility. Which leaves Mike and one other officer responsible for the personal security of the judges. Mike has held this responsibility for the last 5+ years and has on countless occasions had significant discourse with Judge [redacted]. In addition, Mike's wife, Beth Stump has worked in the County Clerk's office for roughly the same time period. Mike has made this known to me and even threatened on one occasion when I was not doing as he wished (against the rules of the Parenting Plan at the time), that if I did not comply with his wishes he was going to "Go to the judge", while I understand that this does not implicate Judge [redacted] of any wrong doing, it absolutely goes to establish that there is a relationship between the two of them. In addition, the other principal party in my case, Jason Stump, is a former Transport Officer and Detention Officer for the Sheriff's Department in Navajo County and was regularly seen, near daily, in the Court Building where Judge [redacted] presides.

Because of the amount of nepotism in the Navajo County Court on my case, the first judge assigned to the case, Judge Michala Ruechel, conflicted herself from the case, she was replaced by Judge [redacted]. While Judge Ruechel did preside over the signing of my divorce decree (which Jason Stump did attend in full uniform) she was prudent enough to see the obvious conflict that would create a clear perception of bias and misconduct. For whatever reason, Judge [redacted] did not feel that presiding over the case of the son of a man he has trusted his life to on countless occasions, constituted a conflict of interest. From the first hearing in front of him, I have felt uneasy of his involvement. In the first hearing in front of Judge [redacted] Mike Stump was sworn in as a witness, wearing his uniform and firearm. He has repeated this behavior at least 1 other time, most recently June 30, 2011. At that same hearing Josh Stump, Jason's brother, son of Mike Stump, and Officer for the Navajo County Sheriff's Department was also in full uniform in the court room.

Over the past 3 years my case has been heard in front of the judge in 3 actual hearings. The first, while not in my favor, passed without major incident. The judge ruled that a clause in my parenting plan that I thought would provide me the freedom to relocate, in his estimation, did not. He also did not allow evidence in the form of a contract where I was basically blackmailed into forfeiting alimony, my car and several months back child support, this clearly showing Jason's intent and motivations that I feel would have been important to the case. In addition, my mother, Sherry Reed was not allowed to speak on behaviors of the children and statements made to her by the children, while Beth Stump was allowed to speak freely with virtually identical stories. This, was only the beginning. I fought very hard to achieve a relocation out of Arizona, largely, due to issues of abuse relating to Jason Stump. I was finally able to

achieve an agreement between us, allowing me to relocate, reached in February 2010, signed into record by the Judge March 3 2010. According to that most recent Parenting Plan *"So long as the Father is current on all Child Support payments, the Mother will assume scheduling responsibilities and airfare costs for all scheduled paternal visitations. If the Father is in arrears in his Child Support obligations, he will be responsible for airfare for paternal visitation. Costs for missed flights or rescheduled flights will be the responsibility of the parent making the change."* This meaning that I was responsible, as agreed for travel expenses for the children's visitation with their father UNLESS the father was in arrears on his child support. Because of a combination of issues, I was notified by the school teacher of my eldest child that he would need to attend some FORMAL learning environment (specifically summer school) or he would likely have significant difficulties passing the 3rd grade. I took these concerns from his teacher and communicated them to Jason Stump, who eventually worked out an adjustment to the summer's visitation to allow Kristopher to attend Summer School. During the same time period, I filed for mediation, as required by our Parenting Plan. When the time arose for travel arrangements to be made for the children's visit that summer, I notified Jason that he was in arrears of nearly \$700 dollars and that he would be required, based on the Parenting Plan we agreed to, to provide for the children's transportation to him for their visit (this arrearage exceeded the cost at the time for roundtrip airfare. Jason was initially opposed, and then on June 21st 2010 according to txt messages sent to me, in the process of checking for ticket prices. On June 25th, 2010 he sent me a txt message that I had to send the children according to the judge. One week later, I was contacted by my mother, who is the public Fiduciary for Navajo County and receives the daily court schedules, notifying me that I needed to be in court in less than an hour. I called into the Court Building and managed to connect for a telephonic appearance for a hearing that I was never notified about or properly served to appear at, this was not the last time that this would occur. In fact the event was not even scheduled to be a hearing, but the judge decided that since I was on the phone he would make it one. Again, I had not been served nor provided disclosure or given an opportunity to provide by any means, the court with any evidence or written statements.

During this hearing, the judge told me that I was intentionally twisting the meaning of that clause and that it was clear to him, me and everyone in the courtroom (now referring to Jason's family who were in attendance) that that was not what the clause meant. It meant that if he was completely deadbeat and not paying support at all and in arrears of thousands of dollars. Oddly, this is not what I meant when I personally wrote this clause of the parenting plan based on the negotiated terms, and not what it states in black and white at all. I had always intended to use reserved amounts of child support payments to fund the travel expenses, this is why that clause was included as failure to pay child support would deny me the monies necessary to pay travel expenses (directly or indirectly).

I had found out about that potential issue with the billing cycles (24 vs 26 week) while doing my own research before notifying Jason about the arrearage and its impact on the travel expenses, on the Economic Security (Child Support) website, and had spoken with my case worker who had told me directly that she HAD tried to contact Jason about the issue, but that he had not responded to her inquiries. She further told me that she could not tell me when she tried to contact him or how, and could provide me with no documentation to support that statement. Jason stated in court that this was

a clerical error that he was unaware of and provided a letter as evidence from the County's Human Resources Department that he was not aware of the arrearage (I did not have access to this letter). He stated that I was the first one to notify him about the issue and that he had taken steps to ensure that issue was fixed. In addition I was further admonished by the judge for not having the kids in Arizona for the early part of the summer, something that Jason and I had independently arranged and agreed upon. I was even yelled at for not filing for mediation, despite the fact that I had, and did state so on the record and it was Jason Stump who had filed the petition. I stated that Jason had not been paying medical bills as well for the children. How is it that a hearing can take place, with no notice to one of the parties, no disclosure, no chance to provide or produce any evidence and have it result in me being accused of being intentionally misleading. He was ordered to pay an additional \$50 per paycheck until he was current on his Child Support, and I was then required to pay 1/2 of the travel expenses for the visit, despite his arrearage with the judge stating to him (paraphrase 'I am trying to give you the reins on this Mr.Stump, you can't lose the reins on this thing.'), the judge stated that we COULD offset my part of the airfare against Jason's medical debts but that it was not required. In other words, absolutely nothing,( more on this later as these bills were never paid). During this "hearing" I was repeatedly interrupted by the judge and not allowed to speak freely to explain my side of things.

Funny, the mediation request I filed never received any response from the court, no notice, no nothing... I was never contacted about the need for mediation or asked about it, zero correspondence took place on behalf of the court. This "hearing" took place more than 6 weeks after I submitted the request for mediation to which the court has never responded.

I believe it was following this hearing, that Heather Smith, a member of the administrative staff at the court house, witnessed the judge engaging in Ex Parte communication with the Stumps prior to me calling in for a telephonic appearance (as stated to my mother "they were all in the courtroom talking"). Now, will she be honest about that when approached? Small town social politics and a fear for ones job has shown itself to be a mighty strong inspiration for sudden amnesia in the past. I do not know if she will tell the truth, all I can do is report the information that I have.

I had done nothing wrong, and was accused of much wrongdoing, the judge even attributing me with intent to deceive. Despite the complete disregard for procedure and my individual rights.

A few months later, after the children returned home from Arizona after months of work on their behavior my husband and I finally got to the root of why they were acting up. Apparently, during the summer visit, Jason took the boys to a Pawn show in Holbrook AZ, where while looking at the knife display, instructed my eldest to have his brother spray a fire extinguisher in my husband's face while he threw a knife at him to kill him. He told the boys that he was going to "take them away from us" and that he himself had bought a gun, and was going to shoot and kill my husband. In addition, my 8 year

old (at the time) specifically detailed to me how he had gone after Jason's gun box (hidden conspicuously under his bed) one day last summer while unsupervised knew where to find the key, opened the box and played with the gun, providing details as to the shape, size, textures and construction of the box and the firearm. He even "knew" that the gun was not loaded, because he "pulled the trigger and nothing happened" I became aware of these events during a 2-3 week period in mid-November. As soon as we were able to get enough from the children to raise our level of confidence in their statements (interviewing them separately to check for inconsistencies in their stories) we tried to notify the Division of Youth and Family Services here in NJ (child protection services here in NJ) however, they stated that they could do nothing since the offenses took place in Arizona and the children were now safe with us in New Jersey, we in turn called CPS in Arizona, who told us a different version of the same story, the offenses happened there in Arizona, but the children were safe here in NJ. We filed police reports in NJ, and were told that nothing could be done from here, as the offenses took place in Arizona. I tried to gain free legal aid, but the delays in there system in New Jersey were significant. I tried to gain free legal aid in Arizona, but the process required a referral from New Jersey, and by the time I was able to gain a telephone referral it was the third week of December. I was advised by the legal aid and through few free consultations with attorneys in NJ and AZ that I should try to gain an emergency modification. I called the courts in Navajo County and spoke with the Clerk at the time Valerie Wyant. She tried to get the issue heard before a judge in Arizona, but none were available for that week before the holiday, and there was no way for me to get original paperwork before a judge in Arizona before they left for vacation. I was told that there was a judge available that day, but that they could do nothing without original paperwork. I thanked her for her efforts, spoke with 1 last attorney who offered a free consultation and worked with Courts in NJ to get an emergency motion heard here in NJ. Jason was conferenced into the court room where he denied everything, and stated that I did this exact same thing in the summer. This was a COMPLETELY different circumstance. He further told the judge over the phone that I had filed the same thing in Arizona, and the judge had denied it. Based on the law the judge concluded that because I had 'availed' myself to the Arizona courts since my decree she could not rule on the issue. I would like to point out that my intention was not to simply deny him visitation, but to protect my children from negligent, abusive and the potentially criminal behavior of their biological father.

Having already decided in the beginning of November before we heard about the threats that we would drive out to Arizona and spend the week in New Mexico (same price as airfare for the children) we had no way to change those plans now, as airfare for the Christmas holiday is cost prohibitive, despite the fact that Jason was still in arrears of greater than \$700 (more on this later). Resigned to deliver the children back to Arizona for the holiday but afraid for our wellbeing and safety in Arizona ourselves, we picked the children up from their last day of school on the 23rd and immediately drove them to Albuquerque NM where we met with my parents on the night of December 24th. My parents stayed with the children in a hotel and then drove them early the next day, the 25th to Holbrook where they performed the exchange. Jason made additional inquiries as to my whereabouts, but no information was forthcoming, as a safety precaution we told the children we were in Las Vegas. Jason dropped the

children off 48 hours before he was scheduled to return them to my parents as he had other more important things to attend to and was intent on leaving town before a snow storm came in.

Two weeks later, January 21st, 2011 I had to appear, telephonically again in front of Judge \_\_\_\_\_ to explain the most recent issues, I was advised by legal aid in Arizona to make a few simple statements. Despite my being the petitioner in this matter the judge proceeded to question Jason Stump first, before swearing anyone in and began to YELL at me and berate me before we were even sworn in. He then paused, swore us in and questioned Jason Sump (Respondent) again, and resumed yelling at me for trying to change venue, even stating that the judge in NJ saw through my deception the same way he did. In a brief moment when I was allowed to speak, I stated that I had not tried to change venue, that I had tried to have the issue heard in Arizona, and still he yelled at me MORE for trying to change venue, again, a charge for which there is NO evidence because it DIDN'T HAPPEN! I tried to speak on several occasions and was repeatedly cut off or spoken over, even when I did manage a moment of input to detail to the court the nature of the threats and weapon access, I was promptly spoken over, called a liar (it is one thing to say to someone that they have no evidence, another thing entirely to call me a liar), told I was again being manipulative etc.. He took any and all statements made by Jason Stump as hard evidence. I was continually yelled at and berated, and when I tried to speak was told that I was spouting "nonsense". I was even reprimanded for not getting the children to Arizona sooner, I mean... less than 48 hours from the moment they left their school, Jason had the children, how much faster can I transport them? The judge admonished me for not purchasing airfare tickets a month in advance, and I asked f I wasn't allowed to drive them out he yelled back "I don't care!" and then back pedaled to validate his outburst. He yelled at me for violating his orders on "SEVERAL" occasions. At this juncture I had only appeared in front of him one time without counsel and there were never any incidents of my violating his orders, the closest he could come was the one hearing from the previous summer, basically he created an imaginary history of violations and infractions that was completely fictional. I tried again to make statements to represent my case and I was interrupted nearly every time I tried to speak and not allowed in any way to represent myself. I had heard similar instructions from attorneys and now the judge made sure (through his actions) that I knew this, do not state anything unless asked and then, only answer the exact question you are asked and nothing more. How else could I have interpreted his tactic of effectively preventing me from speaking on any issues I needed to raise?

Somewhere during the hearing, the judge became Jason's attorney, barked at him for signing the parenting plan in the first place and then advising him that if he had papers in front of to alter custody, that he would have to consider them, even suggesting that Jason file contempt charges against me. (ignoring that the plan had just been signed into effect just nine months earlier and had its own process in place to deal with such issues).

How can a judge be allowed to preside over the case of the son of the man he trusts his life to every single week? Clearly no human being could maintain absolute objectivity and fairness under such circumstances.

This is where it gets REALLY nasty and corrupt.

*Side Note: When the children returned home, they detailed to us how they had witnessed an argument between Beth and Jason with Beth yelling at him that "We are doing everything we can to make it so that you can keep the kids!". Jason then mumbled something to her that neither child could make out, and then she cursed at him telling him that he was full of sh\*%..*

On February 1st, I received notice that Jason was filing for a change of custody. In the notice I received it stated that I had 20 days from the date of service to respond, that would have been February 21st. It also stated that "No sooner than five (5) days after the expiration of the time permitted for the filing of the response, either party or attorney shall provide a Request for Order Granting or Denying Custody Hearing to the assigned division. The court shall determine whether a custody hearing should be granted." At the very minimum that would have required that no further action take place until February 26th.

Let us review now what ACTUALLY happened. According to court records, the prior hearing took place on Friday January 21st. Presumably, following his attorney ( ) advice, Jason, otherwise self-represented, filed (on Monday January 24th) a motion to change custody. Completely contrary to what I had been notified to. The judge signed off on his petition on Friday January 28th and scheduled a court date and an Order to Appear. The scheduled date did not AT ALL account for proper procedure, in addition, I WAS NEVER (PROPERLY OR IMPROPERLY) NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS COURT DATE! Somehow, on February 17th, while I was still trying to retain affordable counsel, "Application: Entry of Default" and "Service: Affidavit" were filed, assumedly by Jason, though I cannot imagine how he could prove service as any date other than February 1st as postal records clearly indicate. Well within the window I had to respond and over a week from when the judge should have even reviewed the filings to determine if a hearing should have been scheduled, I again got a phone call from my mother, panicked that I had to appear in court in MOMENTS! I scrambled to contact my attorney, who also scrambled to call into the court room. There was never any intent to have a fair hearing, this was a clear attempt to take my children away from me without the chance of representation and for the Judge to do a favor for his personal bodyguard! Shocked that I was not only present but also represented, the proceedings were rescheduled.

NOTE: Even if you count days on the calendar, the gap from January 24th (date of service does not count against the respondent) to February 18th is still only 24 days, with the 25th day being the date of the hearing. This was the SECOND time that I was not notified about a court date, this one to decide a change of custody that the judge was CLEARLY complicit in not only advising, but also arranging as he

signed the order to appear and scheduled the date, 4 days after the motion was filed by Jason Stump. How many.. "mistakes" are allowed before a pattern of behavior is established and the "perception of impropriety" loses the word "perception"?

After reviewing the details of the case with me, my new attorney and I deduced that there were clear conflicts of interest for the judge and the clerk's office, the plethora of errors and issues could no longer be ignored and still maintain the perception of a fair process, and so decided to file a motion to change venue. We were not seeking to change the venue out of state, but simply to change to another county where no court personnel had personal relationships with either party or their families. This motion CLEARLY outlined the need for a change of venue, and any reasonable individual would agree.

And so there was a session scheduled to discuss and decide on the motion to change venue as detailed above. After agreeing upon the date in the courtroom with all parties present, Judge \_\_\_\_\_ then turned around and changed the scheduled date to 2 days earlier. Jason Stump and his attorney were both present for this modified schedule, apparently having been notified, and I again, got another panicked call from my mother to tell me about the court date that I had in mere moments. This time, instead of even pretending to have a fair process, the judge decided to summarily dismiss the motion for change of venue and have no further discussion on it whatsoever.

I have heard many times, how esteemed and respected \_\_\_\_\_ is in the Arizona legal community. Can you, or anyone else explain to me how someone SO reputable could make THIS MANY ACCIDENTAL MISTAKES? I cannot, and I cannot fathom how anyone who hears or reads the details of this case will conclude anything other than the truth. This has been a compromised process from the very beginning, with the judge continually favoring the son of his personal bodyguard and protector. I would like to conclude here, but I cannot, as this, while being the THIRD court event that was scheduled without notice to myself or my counsel, was not the last time that the judge would behave with bias, an unprofessional demeanor and downright disregard for my civil rights and the legal process.

On May 13th we again met due to another continuance. This time, the opposing side suggested that they choose a date that would facilitate my presence in Arizona. Mr.Wood suggested this as a good idea, as something I KNOW Jason Stump has threatened to me and my husband on several occasions. My attorney countered that Jason was, based on the Parenting Plan, responsible for travel expenses and Mr.Wood responded that that would not be an issue and Jason would be caught up on Child Support within days (an amount greater than \$2,000). Based on this statement my attorney did not make further comment.



Immediately after the session, I called my attorney and asked about the suggestion that I appear, communicating to him that I had no resources to send the children or myself to Arizona, he responded that the statement made in court was not an order and while it might be good to appear personally, I was under no legal obligation to do so. What he instructed was that I wait to see if Jason caught up on Child Support, and if he did to send the children as the Parenting Plan required, if he did not, we would send a pair of notices to Jason Stump and his attorney notifying them that due to his arrearage he would be responsible for travel expenses for the children. On June 8th, I sent Jason email notifying him of this fact as stipulated by the Parenting Plan. In speaking with my attorney he stated that he would also send Ron Wood the same letter.

For what reason I truly do not understand, my attorney did not file the motion to appear telephonically until June 28th, I became aware of this myself during the hearing on June 30th. In addition, I am furious with my attorney for the perception that he presented in court that he found out about the travel situation only 2 days before the court date, I also have my attorney on record stating that this was NOT the case. Unfortunately, at this time, because of this out of control situation, I cannot afford to fire my attorney for another, this is the situation that I am stuck with. **HOWEVER**, the judge signed the motion and then went on a tyrannical tirade where he not only acknowledged that perhaps his so called "order" about me being required to be physically present for this hearing was not clear, but that I had again defied him. Ironically, it cannot be found in any court record that I was in any way ordered to appear on June 30th. Every set of documents I have for the last 3 years CLEARLY reflect Orders from the court. On the records for May 13th 2011, there were NO ORDERS made, only the request in court by the attorney for the opposition. Even so, this was qualified by the promise that Jason Stump would be caught up on Child Support by then, which also never happened. In an exhibition of his continued corrupt behavior the judge asked me if I knew that I was not coming to court weeks ago, I said yes, but was afraid to add anything further... He then sanctioned me for violating his NONEXISTENT order. Completely disregarding due process he changed the specifics of the Parenting Plan without mention or request from EITHER party. Even if it had been an order, which it undoubtedly was not, without making an NEW order, can a judge change an agreement reached by 2 parties, signed by both attorneys that even he the judge himself had signed? And does not his signature and entry into record make that agreement a judicial order? If so, the judge has also been completely ignoring his own order as he has consistently ignored each stated violation made by Jason Stump. And yes, the list is long. Even when allowed to briefly represent the issues of contempt against Jason Stump, the judge again gave him, reminders... of his responsibility to pay child support.. something that had been ordered rectified a whole year earlier that was never executed. To date, Jason Stump is now over \$2,500 in arrears and a parenting plan that CLEARLY required him to pay travel expenses when he is in arrears has been ignored for 3 visitations that I have had to fund for nearly \$2,000 that I have been forced to pay out of pocket, and NOW changed by the judge, who to his own admission does not like that part of the plan... But hey, as long as the son of his personal body guard gets to see his kids, who cares who is hurt in the process, including the children. The charges against Jason are VERY serious, and there is evidence to support them and a LONG track record of similar behavior, but this judge continues to pretend that they do not exist. Even

in the parenting plan he is required himself to attend counseling which he never has, an item that the judge has conveniently ignored. Let's ALL ignore the obvious... so long as we take care of the son of our personal security officer. He again continued his trend of taking suggestions from Jason (this time his attorney) as factual evidence, yelling at me for trying to replace the father, something that I had never done, especially without having heard ANY evidence or testimony to that extent, and he built this out of Jason's attorney commenting about the children referring to him in writings as "Jason" and not Dad. I would like to point out that in this session, no one was sworn in and no evidence was reviewed or presented. Even his order that the children be in Arizona 3 days after the hearing ignored the submitted and subpoenaed evidence that them being in Arizona with Jason Stump could be dangerous to their physical and mental health! The judge accused me of bending the will of my attorney into trickery and then told my lawyer how he should put on his case! This order also ignored my financial situation, a situation that has been precipitated by the judges clear bias and now has forced me into a scenario where I have begun to sell my personal belongings in order to meet his unreasonable and unfair demands. Judge \_\_\_\_\_ misrepresents facts of the case FREQUENTLY, including that there is a connection between child support and visitation (which is illegal) in our recent Parenting Plan while the connection is actually between child support and travel expenses, which is ENTIRELY different, common and legitimate. The problem is that he has continuously skewed the clear wording of the plan and then scolded me for following the letter of the agreement, as he had ordered. Despite the court ordered parenting plan requiring Jason Stump to provide coverage during the discussion of my filed contempt charges against Jason for not having such coverage, the judge then asked ME why the children did not have health insurance and even went so far as to blame me for his not getting enough sleep and being tired and grumpy (and for the amount of work he had to do that day). Meanwhile the judge casually dismissed each violation of the Parenting Plan mentioned for Jason Stump. He also yelled at and lectured me for violating FUTURE laws.... REALLY? He is even foreshadowing his future decision, stating that he will be considering various statutes, including the wishes of the children, who are 7 and 9 which is completely inappropriate by any standards. He even mentioned that we will discuss the return of the children to NJ at the upcoming hearing IF it is even necessary...

This man has no interest in justice, no respect for due process and absolutely no intention of any semblance of a fair outcome. I am to appear in front of him on August 4th 2011, and I am convinced that there is nothing that I can do or say within the realm of things that I know to be true and real, that will change his intended outcome. How do I move forward with any hope when he has shown me that the truth has no place in his courtroom? He has every plan to take my children from me, despite there being absolutely NO legal grounds to do so. He continues to misrepresent facts, impair my ability to represent myself, participate in the active efforts to bypass my right to be present for hearings, slander me in open court and disregard due process.

I understand that I have included a lot of information in this complaint. Many of the actions of those around him may not be the direct responsibility of the judge, however, it absolutely is his responsibility

to ensure that there is no impropriety or the appearance of impropriety. It is also his responsibility to ensure that the circumstances surrounding each case are clear of all such influences and appearances, including uniformed and armed members of the court staff and law enforcement that have relationships with the judge and either party. This point also applies to the judge himself. Over the last 5 years, every time he steps into that building, his personal security has been the responsibility of two men, one of those two men is Mike Stump, father of Jason Stump. That point is not a secret and incontrovertible. No matter how minor some of the stated infractions may seem, justice has not been done, and core to every single issue, has been that this judge, should have dismissed himself from this case from day one. On this issue, his responsibilities are clear and unmistakable as stated in the Code of Judicial Conduct "

**RULE 2.11. Disqualification (A)** *A judge shall disqualify himself or herself in any proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned, including but not limited to the following circumstances:*

*(1) The judge has a personal bias or prejudice concerning a party or a party's lawyer, or personal knowledge of facts that are in dispute in the proceeding.*

**Comment**

- 1. Under this rule, a judge is disqualified whenever the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned, regardless of whether any of the specific provisions of paragraphs (A)(1) through (5) apply.**
- 2. A judge's obligation not to hear or decide matters in which disqualification is required applies regardless of whether a motion to disqualify is filed.**
- 5. A judge should disclose on the record information that the judge believes the parties or their lawyers might reasonably consider relevant to a possible motion for disqualification, even if the judge believes there is no basis for disqualification."**

I hope I will not be expected to cite each violation point by point. Not being an attorney I have found this entire process very difficult and stressful as I am always worried about what I should and should not do according to the law. I have listed as many violations that I could recall in the above complaint and now below in the references to the code of conduct.

I have attached as much documentation as I can to support these issues. I understand that as part of your investigation that you will acquire any necessary court records. I am confident that those records, despite misquotes in some of the transcription from the court reporter(s), will only serve to validate my complaints. My only real hope, is that upon review, this man can be immediately removed from my case. The appearance of impropriety is clear. If he is allowed to remain, only injustice and undue hardship will continue to be dealt by his hand.