

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 11-250

Complainant: No. 0308110717A

Judge: No. 0308110717B

ORDER

A superior court judge voluntarily reported that he issued a delayed ruling.

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.

After review, the commission decided to dismiss this matter with a private advisory letter to the judge. The complaint is dismissed pursuant to Rules 16(b) and 23(a).

Dated: December 20, 2011.

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ Louis Dominguez

Louis Frank Dominguez
Commission Chair

Copies of this order were mailed to the complainant and the judge on December 20, 2011.

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



Superior Court of Arizona
Pinal County

OCT 03 2011

September 30, 2011

Judicial Commission
1501 W. Washington Street
Suite 229
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Self Report: Violation of 60 day rule

Commission:

I am a full time Judge Pro Tem for Pinal County Superior Court and have served on the bench for almost 5 years. One year ago I was re-assigned from criminal to the civil bench. One of my many assignments is to handle all cases in which a default judgment is sought. I typically process an average of approximately 50 per week.

In Pinal County Cause No. CV2010 (breach of contract for credit card debt) I took a motion for entry of default judgment under advisement on July 1, 2011. Ordinarily, I try to process these "routine" type cases as they come to my office. For some reason, this was included in a separate stack of "substantive rulings" under advisement. In organizing my files, I somehow mistook the "under advisement" date in this particular case to be August 1, and put a sticky note on the file "due October 1." When I opened the file a few days ago I noticed the error. The judgment has been signed and entered.

I believe this inadvertent error to be due to the sheer volume of these types of cases I handle and will be sure to "double check" the due date in the future.

Let me know if there is any other information I could provide you with concerning this matter.

Sincerely,