

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 14-146

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

The complainant alleged a pro tem justice of the peace was prejudiced against men and improperly delayed a hearing which prevented him from presenting critical evidence from two witnesses he had asked to testify on his behalf.

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 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: June 25, 2014.

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ George A. Riemer

George A. Riemer
Executive Director

Copies of this order were mailed to the complainant and the judge on June 25, 2014.

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

From: [REDACTED]

To: Arizona Commission of Judicial Ethics

Subject: Judge [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] County [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] Judicial Ethics
Complaint on case number [REDACTED]

Date: [REDACTED]

I hereby file this formal judicial complaint against Judge [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] Court for the following reasons.

First Ethics Complaint: During the many months of having hearings in front of Judge [REDACTED] I had always felt uncomfortable and even demeaned because I'm male. She always had a negative attitude in other domestic violence hearings, mine included. It felt as if she was simply going through the motions of justice but not "providing" true justice in domestic violence cases. Many men going through the court were saying "domestic violence cases are rubber stamped" by Judge [REDACTED]. Over the months I felt she already predetermined the outcome of the case before my trial on [REDACTED]. Clearly, after my trial I feel my fears had been confirmed. In my opinion, Judge [REDACTED] violated the following rules of Judicial Conduct: **Rule 1.2, Rule 2.3B**

Second Ethics Complaint: On [REDACTED] I had a trial in the [REDACTED] Court concerning one count of domestic violence, a misdemeanor. During the trial I was acting as my own attorney and was confident the court would rule in my favor after hearing my witness testimony. Both of my witnesses were properly disclosed before trial and were the main focus of my defense. However, Judge [REDACTED] was running behind in hearing cases and the trial, set for only [REDACTED] hour, was running way behind. The trial was supposed to start at [REDACTED] but it was now [REDACTED]. Then, Judge [REDACTED] decided to take a break which lasted for another [REDACTED]. Both of my witnesses were on a strict time frame. One of my witnesses had to pick up [REDACTED] who I have joint custody of when school was released that afternoon. My second witness was forced to leave before the trial started because of his demanding work schedule. The trial started at approximately [REDACTED] and both of my key witnesses had to leave before providing any testimony. I asked for the chance to call my witnesses and have an audio testimony or another hearing time and date so my witnesses could be present but Judge [REDACTED] went ahead and continued with the trial against my wishes, destroying my defense. The end result was a [REDACTED]. In my opinion, Judge [REDACTED] violated the following rules of Judicial Conduct: **Rule 2.2A(1) and (4), Rule 2.5A(2) and Rule 2.6A**

I request the Arizona [REDACTED] Court, Commission on Judicial Ethics investigate the above complaint.

Respectfully Submitted,

[REDACTED]