

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 14-290

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

A superior court judge self-reported 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 found no evidence of ethical misconduct and concluded that the judge did not violate the Code in this case. The commission approved sending the judge a warning letter advising him to review Formal Advisory Ethics Opinion 06-02 and to implement procedures to avoid similar delays in the future. The commission's file in the matter was closed, pursuant to Rules 16(b) and 23(a).

Dated: September 23, 2014

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ Louis Frank Dominguez

Hon. Louis Frank Dominguez
Commission Chair

A copy of this order was mailed
to the judge on September 23, 2014.

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



2014-290

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA

FROM THE CHAMBERS OF

Commission on Judicial Conduct
1501 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Self-reporting violation of 60-day rule

To the Commission:

I was advised yesterday that an inadvertent violation of the 60-day rule has occurred. In _____, the Respondent filed a _____ on _____. The Court directed that a response be filed, and the Petitioner filed a response on _____. The Court should have ruled by _____.

Yesterday this division was contacted by counsel for Respondent, who requested a ruling. I issued a ruling this date.

There is no excuse for my failure to rule promptly – this motion just slipped through the cracks. While it is not a justification, it should be noted that this was a heavily litigated _____ case, with 95 pleadings having been filed in _____ alone. It was one of approximately 650 active _____ cases in my division at the time.

Sincerely,