

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 18-140

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

The complainant alleged a superior court judge made a professional appointment in a dissolution matter knowing the appointee had a conflict of interest in the case.

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.

The commission does not have jurisdiction to review the legal sufficiency of the judge's rulings. In addition, 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(a).

Commission members George H. Foster, Jr., Anna Mary Glaab and Diane M. Johnsen did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Dated: July 18, 2018

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on July 18, 2018.

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

2018-140

Judge [redacted] willingly and knowingly appointed [redacted] attorney at law to write a QDRO in [redacted] of [redacted].
Knowing [redacted] had a Conflict of Interest documented from [redacted]
from [redacted] which is included in this complaint.

[redacted] QDRO was used by the [redacted] to [redacted] reverse and remand Case [redacted] by the [redacted]

The [redacted] used the QDRO written by [redacted] to [redacted] reverse and [redacted] decision [redacted] The letters of [redacted] (Ex. 1), [redacted] 5 (Ex. 2), [redacted] (Ex. 3) and [redacted] (Ex. 4) are prima facie evidence of [redacted] s conflict of interest which is uncontested. different QDRO attorneys in Case [redacted]

[redacted] appointed [redacted] who withdrew.

[redacted] then appointed [redacted] in the decree.

[redacted] then appointed [redacted] whose QDRO was approved by ASRS.

[redacted] then reappointed [redacted] replacing knowing of [redacted] conflict of interest.

All parties to this lawsuit were aware of [redacted] employment by [redacted]

[redacted] falsely testified under oath (Ex. 5) at the [redacted] Hearing in [redacted] that [redacted] was both neutral and unbiased.

the ethical and legal violations of the Code of Conduct is clear and unequivocal.

[redacted] should be reprimanded and disciplined for her unethical conduct resulting in a reversal of Judge [redacted] decision in [redacted] in [redacted]

It is my considered view that [redacted] should initiate a hearing into this serious misconduct by [redacted] within the judicial system of the Courts of Arizona.

I will be glad to supply additional information in depth upon request.

Sincerely,