

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 18-312

Judges:

Complainants:

ORDER

The complainants alleged a superior court commissioner wrongfully arrested their mother on a child support warrant. The complainants also alleged a superior court judge made improper rulings in a custody matter.

The responsibility of the Commission on Judicial Conduct is to impartially determine if a judicial officer 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 a judicial officer's rulings. In addition, the commission found no evidence of ethical misconduct and concluded that the judicial officers 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 member Christopher P. Staring did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Dated: February 13, 2019

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on February 13, 2019.

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

To the Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct

Dear concerned persons,

My name is [REDACTED] I am the [REDACTED] In this document I hope to describe my experiences and observations of life with my mother locked in an [REDACTED] divorce case with her former husband, [REDACTED] and the way that the Arizona court system has repeatedly oppressed her ability to fulfill her role as a loving, responsible, supportive parent for me, but more importantly for my brother, [REDACTED] and my sisters, [REDACTED]

I have written [REDACTED] in this format previously. I wrote the [REDACTED] Arizona several [REDACTED], when I was in college. In this letter I described my experiences growing up with [REDACTED] as a father figure in our household and the cruel, manipulative and selfish dimensions of his personality that became more transparent with time. For example, I remember [REDACTED] beating me with a belt at an age [REDACTED] because I had not heard or responded to my Sunday school teacher's greeting to me before service that day. This was a repetitive occurrence in our home. Punishments were always carried out by him. Aside from the severity, the most significant part of this was the inconsistency. [REDACTED] disguised and described his methods of discipline as being structured, with a consistent moral framework and Christian family values. In reality, his actions as a father figure reflect what I now understand to be an abusive and manipulative character. He is the smoothest liar I have ever met. I have only met one other man in my life like [REDACTED] and after a few short months I recognized him to be a pathological liar and a sociopath.

My understanding of [REDACTED] character is important to you at the Commission on Judicial conduct in regards to the ongoing case between him and my mother. The role of a divorce court is to weigh emotionally charged family matters in an unbiased manner to produce rulings that are fair and just for both parents involved. More importantly, the Arizona court system is morally obligated to create rulings that provide the children with the optimal environment to grow into upstanding citizens with fulfilling lives.

I am [REDACTED] now. For the past [REDACTED] years I have helplessly watched [REDACTED] actions harm our family, enabled, supported exacerbated and enforced by the Arizona legislative system. I remember my mother suffering from migraines, nightmares, exhaustion and depression for all [REDACTED] years that I was in high school. She suffered financial stress from seeking work as a single mother during the worst part of the economy's crash. I understand there are several instances where [REDACTED] deliberately withheld child support payments, leading to further financial hardship. During this same period he randomly instigated [REDACTED] visits to our home. Many times [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] called [REDACTED] on issues without grounds, which never lead to any findings. I understand that Arizona Law 13.2907.02 states that a person who knowingly makes a false report of child neglect is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor. One agent came through the front door and passed me at the kitchen table to investigate our pantry upon suspicion that we had no food. Despite being poor, my mother always kept a roof over our heads. She drove me, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] all to different schools, me to

band practice, and my siblings to their respective extracurricular activities. She always made sure we had lots of books to read and prioritized our studies and grades.

In recent years [REDACTED] has actively prevented my brother and sisters from participating in organized sports, school trips and personal family travel. For example, I remember my sister being [REDACTED] taken immediately to the hospital for medical diagnosis and care, only for [REDACTED] and his parents to arrive after the fact, wielding his authority as a parent as a power trip, bringing [REDACTED] police officers to back him up and totally disrupting a peaceful healing environment. This is the common pattern with this man. Again, this would not be the concern of your committee if it were not for the fact that Arizona judges have been enabling him to continue his abuse into my family through their legal arm. He has delayed medical care for my siblings for self-serving reasons that fit the psychological traits of an authoritarian narcissist. At [REDACTED] years old I began my first serious lessons in critical thinking, reading and writing. I remember observing instance after instance as a young man of [REDACTED] growing his weight around in every way possible and asking myself from a neutral perspective what his motivations might be. I attempted to remove all obvious biases from myself to best understand what was going on around me, and yet I find bitterness and malevolence as the most obvious motivations for his actions.

Shortly after I became an adult my mother was blessed with wealth left her by my great-grandfather, who worked very hard his whole life to leave behind everything he could for us. I have watched my mother go from wealthy woman to the poverty line, and [REDACTED] has used the judicial system to beat us down at every opportunity he has found along the way. He has had full access to gainful employment through his family's company, [REDACTED] since before he married my mother. His parents are wealthy people also. Despite this, a careful review of [REDACTED] financial engagement in the divorce case show that he feels no obligation to contribute to medical, dental or vision expenses for his children. At the same time his lawyers have consistently and successfully pressured the court to take money away from my mother at every opportunity possible.

I have a special relationship with my youngest sister, [REDACTED] Since she was born, she has gravitated towards me and I to her. She is a quiet and sensitive girl, and I understood and stood up for her when she could not stand up for herself. [REDACTED] wrote a letter to the court saying that she does not wish to spend her time with my mother anymore. I am telling you, every person processing this document, that the chaotic environment that has shaken my little sister so badly has been largely doing. I implore you to get your smartest developmental and family psychologists to really analyze what is going on here. [REDACTED] issued a warrant for my mother's arrest on a civil matter without providing due process. While my mother was in jail, [REDACTED] immediately capitalized on the opportunity. He delivered a copy of [REDACTED] letter to my mother while she was incarcerated. He told my sister [REDACTED] that " [REDACTED] He said the child support warrant was " [REDACTED] There is no reason for a judge to enforce financial rulings with incarceration unless the father's legal representation consistently pushes for more money coming their way. recently bought himself a new [REDACTED] and harassed [REDACTED] over bringing a covered bowl of food in it. He was supposedly " [REDACTED] over the idea that my family's dog, cats and rabbits were suffering due to their owner, my mother, being incarcerated halfway through moving. He then used emotions in an attempt to find the animals and take them to his house, which would have been yet another emotional pawn he would have at his disposal.

This is the pattern. Please pay attention to this man and recognize it for what it is. He purposefully facilitates harmful situations and uses the subsequent hardship in my mother's household to feign greater stability in his own. He loves power, and your judicial system has paired him up with judges that also love power. I am not a cynical person but there are certain people in life who are truly cruel and malicious. This is one of them. This man does not have the best interests of my brother and sisters at heart. As I have watched them grow, I have remained as silent as possible throughout all of this so that they too will learn to think for themselves and find the true character of the parents that raised them. _____ and _____ are tough, intelligent and kind people now and should you sit them down with a psychologist or therapist one on one, you would find that with age, their suspicion and distrust of character grows stronger. This is very important. _____ letter has lead to a hearing on which will re-evaluate custody guidelines. It is obvious to me that _____ pressured her negative emotions to write this letter.

The emotional charge of an appeal should not dictate the logical outcome of court proceedings. However, you as an employee of the people have an obligation to help the most vulnerable members of our society. I am tired of seeing my mother's security crippled year after year by the Arizona justice system. I am tired of seeing the court side with a man who utilizes gaslighting, deflection and deception to get his way with no sense of honor or remorse. If you have ordered rulings in favor of you have taken away my little sister's opportunity to thrive in a household where genuine love and support carry us together through the hard times that life will undoubtedly throw at us. Are you not aware of the nature of abusive relationships? Have you never had the misfortune of being kept against your consciousness and will in a predatory dynamic that keeps you down indefinitely? Perhaps not. Perhaps the judges and employees that work within this system gain equal gratification over oppressing a woman they do not know for reasons that cannot be justified except with concrete authoritarianism. My mother would be wealthier, healthier, more balanced and most importantly free to be the kind of parent that she is if no legal ties to her former partner existed. Everyone would be free to go their own separate ways. Of course that is not how your system operates.

May I remind you that _____ was charged and convicted with against _____ He came to our house in the morning before it was light, without prior consent, high on cocaine, and violently chased my mother from room to room. There is no action committed by _____ that comes even close to this level of severity. Surely in dealing with violent criminals you understand that some people are physically and emotionally violent, and others tend not to be. _____ is physically and emotionally violent. My mother is not. _____ is a liability in my brother and sister's emotional, mental and experiential development. He will hold them back because he must control every relationship that he is in. He is too self-centered and controlling to allow his loved ones to achieve self-actualization on their own terms; they must always be on his. He has done exactly this using the Arizona courts, and he will continue to do so as long as judges harass, incarcerate and financially drain my mother. If you think that I am needlessly biased against this man please just do this. Listen to me with a neutral and open mind. Then review the divorce case, starting from the very beginning. Then ask yourself whether the patterns I am describing match the patterns you see enforced by law. This is the message that your system sends to women who speak up. Shut up, or we will make your life hell. _____ is not a victim, my mother and my siblings are.

I cannot remember the last time that I saw my mother relieved from a state of constant stress. Your _____ profit from making headlines out of her case now. How exactly do you expect her

to foster a safe environment full of opportunity for her children when you take her money, take her children, throw her in jail and reward the man who views the dynamic as a zero-sum game? You are actively creating an optimal environment to enable an abuser.

Judge had my mother arrested and jailed without due process this past

This would have prevented her from appearing in family court on I am not paranoid in saying that the Arizona judges would take full advantage of the situation and use my mother's incarceration to take more rights and resources away from her. Last night, my mother again jailed immediately following her court appearance with Judge She is held in contempt of court for failing child support payments, the sum total of which equal My mother will sit in jail for over until the next hearing with in meaning that she will miss the date with to determine new custody standards between my mother and I understand that Judge has upheld rulings from that have completely crippled my mother financially. As a woman, a member of both the and and an active judge, she must understand the significance of protecting the at-risk members of our community, and she must have some greater level of understanding of the struggles of women and children. She is hammering my mother over the head with demands that my mother pay money that she does not have, and she has thrown my mother in jail with a only bond, that she knows she cannot afford. Judge must be blessed to never have been suppressed or abused by an authoritarian organization for her to be able to so casually issue rulings and warrants that disrupt every aspect of my family's life. She must not understand or care about human suffering, otherwise she would have reviewed my mother's continued insistence that she cannot afford the judgements imposed upon her.

I understand that my perspective is highly biased. However, I have seen the implications of every ruling firsthand in our household. Since I was my mother has been wronged time and time again by the judges overseeing family court. I am writing now from , at one of my work locations in I will continue to write your organization until judges

and are removed from their positions. I have had nightmares during the summer of of my mother and sisters suffering in a frozen wasteland begging for help. As in any nightmare, I could not speak, cry out, reassure them or carry them to safety. I could only watch. Obviously my anxiety is not ill-placed, as my mother is in jail for the time in a . The first time, for a civil warrant she was never served or notified for. This time, for contempt of court for failure to pay funds that do not exist in her bank account. My mother filed for ago because she is bankrupt. She does not have money to pay out. Yet she has been jailed for failing to pay child support which she should not owe in the first place.

My mother will never be able to afford the rulings weighed against her. I believe that Judges and are fully aware of this. I believe that they are totally content with the idea of her remaining in a jail cell for the next I believe that when she does not appear for court dates due to her incarceration, they will use that opportunity to further punish her. Lastly, I know for a fact that they will not lose a wink of sleep over the and of pain and suffering they have knowingly inflicted upon my family. There is absolutely no sense of fairness or justice here, only a predatory system that has inserted itself into our lives using state-sanctioned violence and continues to leech upon us callously and without consideration.

Please, people at this committee, listen to my words. Email me back. Let me know that my voice is being heard. I have no other avenue of speaking my experiences. My experiences are important. I am very good at watching happenings in live and observing patterns. The pattern is a broken system. Where was the Arizona justice system when my mother's [redacted] was stalking and harassing her, and breaking into the home where my sister hid in the closet alone? Why was [redacted] never charged with anything? Where was the Arizona justice system when [redacted] and his family instigated fraudulent investigations into our home during peaceful times? Why has [redacted] not been held in contempt of court and jailed accordingly? His actions are infinitely more deserving than my mother's. Seriously where the hell were you people? Do you only show up when there is profit to be made? The current state of the prison system would suggest so. Please do something about these judges. Our life was full of promise and opportunity. Now it is full of only dark times with nothing positive to look forward to. My mother is in jail thanks to these judges and I can do nothing. Please investigate these family court proceedings from top to bottom and understand how we have gone from having the world open to us to having nothing bright in our futures.

**THE COMMISSION'S POLICY IS
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PAGES OF ANY DISMISSED
COMPLAINT ON ITS WEBSITE.**

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