

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 18-335

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

The complainant alleged a pro tem superior court judge engaged in improper political activity.

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.

After review, the commission found no evidence of ethical misconduct and concluded that the judicial officer 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 Gus Aragón did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Dated: February 20, 2019

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on February 20, 2019.

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

2018-335

COMPLAINT AGAINST A JUDGE

Name: _____ Judge's Name: _____

Instructions: Use this form or plain paper of the same size to file a complaint. Describe in your own words what you believe the judge did that constitutes judicial misconduct. Be specific and list all of the names, dates, times, and places that will help the commission understand your concerns. Additional pages may be attached along with copies (not originals) of relevant court documents. Please complete one side of the paper only, and keep a copy of the complaint for your records.

I won the _____ for Judge of the _____ in _____ County, Arizona this
I am the _____ to _____ who is an _____ and the _____
County _____ and seeking reelection as Judge of the _____ in
County.

I erected my political signs in _____ Arizona at the _____ intersection. Thereafter,
erected his political signs next to mine.

Through a public records request I discovered _____ requested _____ be appointed a
judge pro tempore at the _____ County _____ and on _____
appointed _____ as a judge pro tempore. True and correct copies are attached hereto as
Exhibit "A".

I received notification my political signs at the intersection _____ were removed by the Arizona
(_____) in response to a complaint about blocking the view of traffic from
an attorney in _____ named _____ who is the partner of _____ judge pro
tempore.

I learned this by a public records request I made and in response I received the emails from
partner _____ to _____ and _____ from the _____ office
in _____ County, Arizona. True and correct copies of those emails are attached hereto as Exhibit "B".

_____ took pictures of the signs that were removed. True and correct copies are attached hereto as
Exhibit "C". As you can see _____ signs were right next to mine and any view that was allegedly
blocked by my signs would have also been blocked by _____ signs as well. _____ removed
signs as well.

I believed the complaint to be politically motivated and drove by the law office of judge pro tempore
and her partner _____ in _____ Arizona on _____. Not surprisingly I found
a " _____ " sign displayed by judge pro tempore _____ and
_____ outside their law office. I took _____ photos and true and correct copies are attached hereto as
Exhibit "D".

I believe judge pro tempore _____ has violated Rule 4.1(3), Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct
by publicly endorsing _____ in his re-election bid against me.

I believe judge pro tempore _____ has violated Rule 4.1(5), Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct
by actively taking part in _____ political campaign by putting his political sign outside her law
office and by her partner's complaint about my political signs in an attempt to have them removed.

Judge pro tempore _____ may have violated other rules as well but in the limited time I have the
Rules I stated above seem to be the most obvious.

CONFIDENTIAL

Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct
1501 W. Washington Street, Suite 229
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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