

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 19-216

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

The Complainant alleged a municipal court judge violated Rule 4.5(A) of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

The role of the Commission on Judicial Conduct is to impartially determine whether a judicial officer has engaged in conduct that violates the Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct or Article 6.1 of the Arizona Constitution. There must be clear and convincing evidence of such a violation in order for the Commission to take disciplinary action against a judicial officer.

After review, the Commission found the judge was not in violation of Rule 4.5(A) but did use his judicial title to promote his political interests in securing another elected office. While this was improper under Rule 1.3, the Scope Section of the Code of Judicial Conduct provides that not every transgression will result in the imposition of discipline. The Commission decided, after considering all the facts and circumstances, to dismiss the Complaint pursuant to Commission Rules 16(b) and 23(a), but to issue a warning letter to the judge reminding him not to abuse the prestige of judicial office to advance his own personal interests.

Commission members Roger D. Barton, Colleen E. Concannon and Christopher P. Staring did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Dated: September 23, 2019

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ Louis Frank Dominguez

Hon. Louis Frank Dominguez
Commission Chair

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on September 23, 2019.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

2019-216

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.

"Judge" WAS the justice of the peace, in The
Right after and prior to his term expiring, started a
campaign to run for . Complaints were filed and was
issued a including rule

Prior to his term expiring at received an appointment as contracted
His term at expired received is
at after his term expired but while still holding the position as a

In announced his campaign, again, for
He has maintained his position at as its in violation
The reasons for requiring this rule a clearly delineated in Arizona's Code of Judicial Conduct.
knowing this rule and being shows his complete
disregard for the rules.

A did not work to assure proper conduct in office. The Commission must consider an
immediate REMOVAL to protect the residents of Arizona from a misconduct prone judicial officer.