State of Arizona

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 21-185

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

The Complainant alleged that a superior court commissioner violated his right to be heard and his right to counsel.

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.

The Commission reviewed all relevant available information and concluded there was not clear and convincing evidence of ethical misconduct in this matter. The Commission approved sending the judge an advisory letter reminding the judicial officer of his obligations under Rules 1.2 and 2.9(A) of the Code. The complaint is therefore dismissed pursuant to Commission Rules 16(b) and 23(a).

Dated: January 26, 2022

FOR THE COMMISSION

<u>/s/ Louis Frank Dominguez</u> Hon. Louis Frank Dominguez Commission Chair

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on January 26, 2022.

CONFIDENTIAL Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct 1501 W. Washington Street, Suite 229 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

21-185

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.

On I appeared virtually for an arraignment in my criminal case before A couple of days ago the lawyer that I had retained quit the case due to threats of violence and murder that have been made by the so-called 'victim' in this case (my daughter) and those she is associated with. So I had no attorney at a critical stage of the proceedings. At the start of the hearing, there were technical problems with the Microsoft Teams software (which is notoriously buggy) in that I could not hear anything. But everyone could see and hear me. So I ended up having to call in my my cell phone while watching the video on a computer, which was fine. However, at some point during the hearing a discussion took place in which I was asking a question to the judge. He had made certain release conditions and invited me to ask any questions. So I did. I started to ask him questions about out-of-state travel when he abruptly got mad and muted me and then turned off my feed so I could neither see nor hear anything. I found out later that he had kept talking and making a bunch of orders, but I never heard any of it. I was finally able to 'unmute' myself by logging back in and then I tried to ask him what was happening when he just kicked me off the channel - again, and the whole video conference thing was offline and there was nothing I could do.

me " ' and said this was nothing more than a bizarre conspiracy theory (or words to that effect).

It seems wildly unfair to have this judge label me " ' when he did not even give me the slightest opportunity to explain to him why I lost two different attorneys that I paid for out of my own pocket! All anyone has to do is Google " ' and the " ' and you will see literally dozens of news articles about this recent plot to assassinate me and my lawyers!

wrote a big expose about it

So did the

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And the

There are many more news articles. But you get the picture. My claims are not " ' or " '. The former leader / attorney of " is suing me for \$ in federal court claiming that I defamed him in a bar grievance by calling him a Nazi and a white supremacist. He was recently arrested for felony Obstruction of Justice & Tampering with a Witness over death threats he emailed me and my lawyers.

You can take Judicial Notice that They were one of the

So this assassination plot is no joke!!!!

In Rothgery v. Gillespie County, 554 U.S. 191 (2008), the United States Supreme Court reaffirmed that the right to counsel attaches when "formal judicial proceedings have begun." For over 60 years, arraignments are one of the types of proceedings that the Supreme Court has defined as a "critical stage" for which the right to counsel attaches. See Hamilton v. Alabama, 368 U.S. 52 (1961).

At the start of the arraignment, when I explained to that I just lost my attorney 2 days ago, I asked for some extra time to find another one. He denied my request and forced me to proceed, despite my telling him that I did not wish to represent myself and, furthermore, that I am absolutely incompetent to represent myself! Now keep in mind, that I was appearing in court voluntarily. A summons had been issued in the mail for this virtual appearance.

By shutting off my audio and video and prohibited me for being able to effectively participate in the arraignment, has violated several fundamental Constitutional rights: Access to Courts, Due Process, Equal Protection, and my Sixth Amendment right to counsel.

By hollering at me. calling me " " and saying that my claims were nothing but " ", displayed non curable bias and prejudice, and a lack of judicial temperament as well as common courtesy. The sad part is that, due to the high profile nature of my case, the arraignment was live streamed on the internet to an audience of literally hundreds of thousands of people who has nothing else better to do due to the pandemic yesterday morning and now is the laughing stock of the internet.

Attached are documents supporting my claims.

Comm.

Re:

Dear Commissioner

I wish to take this opportunity to lodge my objection and opposition to the fact that when you muted the audio, I was not able to hear <u>anything</u> you or the prosecutor were saying with regards to release conditions.

I repeatedly tried to draw your attention to that, but was ignored.

I also wish to object to the release conditions since I was not given any opportunity to hear them or make any kind of response or opposition.

This is horribly unfair, sir.

You allowed my retained counsel, to withdraw from this case without giving me benefit of any notice or an opportunity to be heard, and thus far no other attorney is willing to represent me.

And you did the same when my most recently hired lawyer was forced to quit late last week due to threats of violence and murder.

Yet when I try to respond to the allegations made by you turn off the sound, muting me and blinding me, leaving me both silent and hamstrung. The fact that nobody else could also hear you was drawn to your

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attention at the very close of the hearing when I was able to sign back in and listen again. Those ladies told you several times that your audio was cut off and no one could hear you.

Did you appoint an attorney for me? Because I am absolutely unqualified and not competent to defend myself and do not want to do so.

I am not trying to be a jerk here, sir. But I am being falsely accused and I have object.

How is this situation possibly fair?

Respectfully submitted,

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on , a copy of this document was electronically filed with the County Superior Court e-Filing system, which will automatically serve a Notice of Electronic Filing on the following parties:

The Honorable Court Commissioner

Attorney for Plaintiff

THE COMMISSION'S POLICY IS TO POST ONLY THE FIRST FIVE PAGES OF ANY DISMISSED COMPLAINT ON ITS WEBSITE.

FOR ACCESS TO THE REMAINDER OF THE COMPLAINT IN THIS MATTER, PLEASE MAKE YOUR REQUEST IN WRITING TO THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT AND REFERENCE THE COMMISSION CASE NUMBER IN YOUR REQUEST.