

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 21-291

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

March 15, 2022

The Complainant alleged a superior court commissioner made inappropriate comments to staff.

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 complaint is therefore dismissed pursuant to Commission Rules 16(a) and 23(a).

Commission members Denise K. Aguilar, Roger D. Barton, Barbara Brown, Louis Frank Dominguez and Joseph C. Kreamer did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on March 15, 2022.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

TELEPHONE

[REDACTED]

UNOFFICIAL BUSINESS

Dear

This letter is regarding Commissioner [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] I have never written a letter in opposition of a Commissioner [REDACTED] j [REDACTED], until now. There is no ill intent behind this letter. I bring these concerns to your attention because I believe they are important.

I worked with [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] was the [REDACTED]

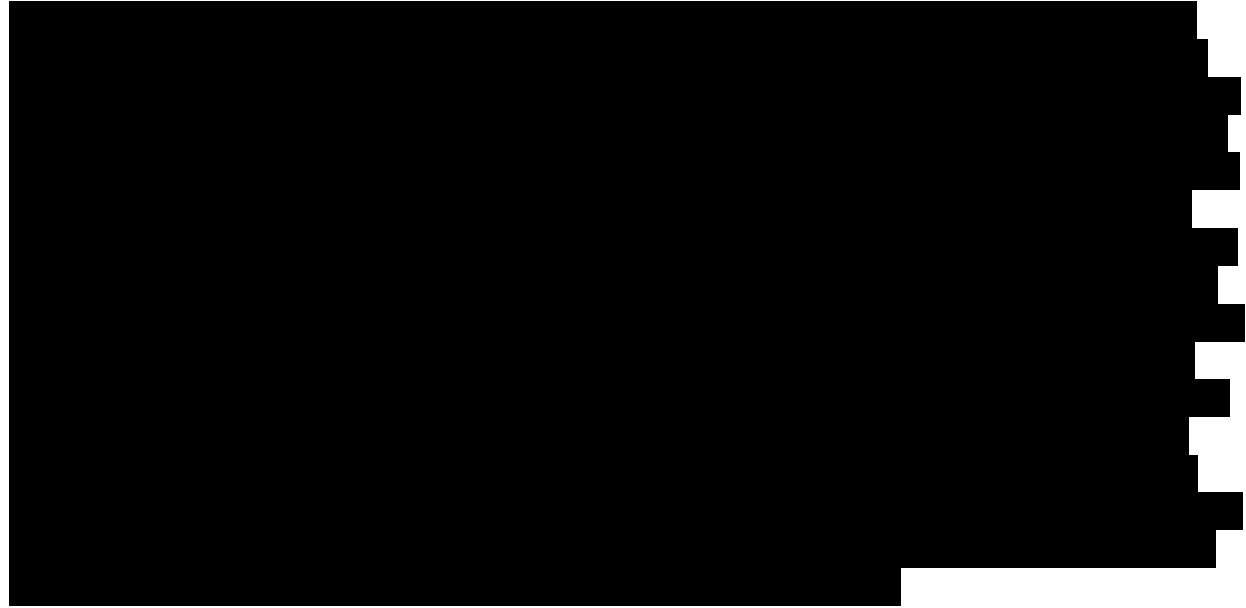
[REDACTED] I can say with some degree of certainty that [REDACTED] is probably one of the hardest working Commissioners I know. She loves being on the bench. She eats, sleeps, and drinks her assignments. Being on the bench is her life. Even on her off days, she was at work. She will be able to adapt to any assignment because she will put in the hours to learn the assignment. However, hard work alone is not what makes a great judicial officer. Moreover, compared to the other Commissioners who are interviewing, [REDACTED] lacks substantive experience as a Commissioner.

While in [REDACTED], I noticed several things about [REDACTED] that caused major concerns, not just to me, but also to the staff and other Commissioners. One concern was that she loved speaking negatively about others, especially if it made her look good. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] would eventually speak negatively about me as well. [REDACTED] I decided to ignore them.

Another concern was her inappropriate conversations with the staff. She made comments and did things that made the staff uncomfortable. Instead of working in her office, she would work in the staff's area and the staff felt that she invaded their space. Staff would report to me how uncomfortable [REDACTED] made them by the conversations she had with them. Without any prompting by the staff, [REDACTED] would tell them about her

and made comments like, “
”, or
” She also
commented that she must
clerk felt that was “ on her. The clerk mentioned that would often
comment on her .



Lastly, my concern is that is boastful and lacks humility. I overheard her telling the staff and Commissioners that when she she would be “”. She mentioned that she would be selected because she is , and everyone loves her, including the Governor of Arizona.

I vacillated writing this letter and thought about not saying anything. Then, I thought, “”. Judges have complete control over their staff. Commissioners’ staff is supervised by court administration. If is appointed judge, she will have complete control over her staff. In my opinion, abused her position of power. What disappointed me the most about behavior was that as the , she did nothing to keep up the morale in the office but made the work environment unpleasant. I believe people can change. I believe can change. However, until she addresses her behavior and makes the necessary changes, I cannot
If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

