State of Arizona

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 21-375

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

An anonymous complainant alleged a justice of the peace made a racist social media post.

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 that certain language of the judge's post gave the perception of a bias and was an appearance of impropriety. While this was improper under Rule 1.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, the Scope Section of the Code 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 judicial officer reminding her of the need to exercise vigilance over the contents of her social media postings, both personally and professionally.

Commission member Colleen E. Concannon did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Dated: June 10, 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 June 10, 2022.

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

2021-375

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.

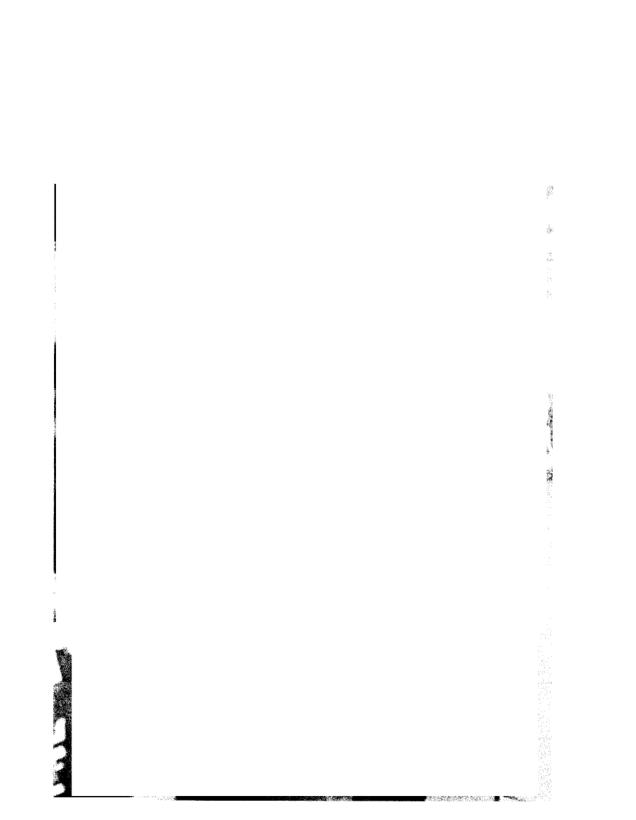
I am concerned about a racist social media post by this County judge. It seems clear that she values people in certain groups over others and that some of her values are based on race. Judges should evaluate cases without regard to race, sexual orientation, citizenship, and economic status. The post indicates that this judge believes that white people think a certain way and that way is wrong. There are other problems too. Her post reads:

VOTE AS IF: Your skin is not white. Your son is gay. Your sister was a victim of gun violence. Your daughter is transgender. Your grandparents need medical care. Your grandparents need medical care. Your home is on fire. Your partner is an immigrant. Your partner is an immigrant. Your brother is a veteran suffering from PTSD. Your best friend is a victim of domestic abuse. Your house is flooded. Your folks are homeless. Your daddy is Two Spirit. Vote as if your family depends on it.

The post is enclosed.

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