

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 22-041

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

October 13, 2022

The Complainant alleged a municipal court judge did not allow a victim to be heard.

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 does not have jurisdiction to overturn, amend, or remand a judicial officer's legal rulings. 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 member Colleen E. Concannon did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on October 13, 2022.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

22-041

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 a victim in a domestic violence case in _____ I am filing this complaint because the Judge revictimized me by taking away my voice, power, and autonomy.

First the prosecutor told me I could speak to the judge. Judge _____ refused to let me speak. One big thing about becoming a victim is that you were robbed of your voice and power. The first step in healing from a trauma is getting your voice back, speaking and being heard. Judge _____ robbed me of that by refusing to let me speak.

Second, Judge _____ robbed me of my power and autonomy by saying in open court that she must protect me even from myself. Her statement is RIPE with sexism - because she is stating

_____ that is an abuse of power and a clear personal bias that she imparted in what is supposed to be an impartial court. When she said that I was humiliated, felt small and invisible, like what I felt and needed didn't matter to anyone - especially to the Judge. She took away my ability to self govern my needs and wants. As a victim, my needs should matter a great deal.

Third, the defendant had to speak for me (which is sick given why we were there in the first place) to the judge. He told her, what I had wanted to explain, that I needed the ban from property removed. The no contact had already been lifted so we had been around each other (not on property) without issue. I needed the property ban lifted because I am disabled, live on the top floor, and need physical help with things and he is only person I have to help. _____ didn't care about my physical or mental health in anyway because she argued with the defendant about my needs - never asking ME!! She further abused me physically by denying me help. She further abused me emotionally by not letting me speak, by arguing my needs with the defendant, by making the defendant speak for me. She took away my choices which is a clear abuse of power. The fact that she would only speak to the man about me is sexism at its finest.

When I left that court room I was so hurt by the _____ words and actions that I felt like a worthless invisible piece of property and it triggered my PTSD to the point I wanted to kill myself. All Judge had to do was be imparital, not sexist, and LET THE VICTIM speak!!

FYI - the lifting of the property ban was NOT so he could move back in as he is still banned from property by the property. However he needs to sign a form that he no longer lives there and is unable to do so because of the courts ban - the property will allow him on property to sign form and then at that time will possibly allow him on property to help me, but NOT live there. However, we can't even begin to broach that subject because of the court's ban. Since the no contact order was lifted, keeping the property ban has ABSOLUTELY NOTHING to do with my safety - it was ALL about POWER AND CONTROL. I have had ENOUGH of power and control over my life. I have the right to make my own decisions about my life and I refuse to stand by and let my husband, Judge _____, the system, and/or anyone else dominate, control and dictate what I can and cannot do, because last I checked I was an adult woman with the right and ability to make my own decisions.

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She violated RULE 1.2. Promoting Confidence in the Judiciary

A judge shall act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary, and shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety.

She violated RULE 2.2. Impartiality and Fairness

A judge shall uphold and apply the law, and shall perform all duties of judicial office fairly and impartially

She violated RULE 2.3. Bias, Prejudice, and Harassment

She violated RULE 2.6. Ensuring the Right to Be Heard