

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 22-078

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

February 8, 2023

The Complainant alleged a justice of the peace unethically obtained signatures on nomination petitions.

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 member Michael J. Brown did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on February 8, 2023.

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

22-078

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.

This evening--a woman who identified herself to us as came to our door circulating nominating petitions for for Justice of the Peace and for Constable. These were the only two petitions being circulated by , and informed us that both candidates were coordinating their signature-collecting efforts. told us that she is being paid per signature and was hired for both campaigns by wife.

In its order disposing of Complaint in the Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct warned Judge that his joint campaign activities with Constable consituted ' and that he should "

is the defendant in an eviction action before Judge in Justice Court () and month ago was defendant in an earlier eviction action (). It is a clear violation of Rule 1.3 of the Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct for a judge to use a defendent in his courtroom to circulate his nominating petitions; it smells of coercion by Judge and of currying favor by . Were this not egregious enough, Judge is involving the constable who has the responsibility for enforcing any eviction.

Judge repeated disregard for the orders of the Commission merits a significant sanction. Clearly, warnings and advisory letters have no effect on Judge

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