

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 23-386

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

March 21, 2024

The Complainant alleged a municipal court judge used her influence when she had her daughter preside over a civil traffic case.

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 Regina L. Nassen did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on March 21, 2024.

2023-386

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 _____ at approximately _____, I attended a court hearing at city of _____ Municipal Court as both a public spectator and emotional support for my cousin _____ as he was present for a trial. Upon entering the courthouse, _____ was behind the court clerk handling some paperwork and looked at me with anger and hatred. She knew who I was but asked my cousin who I was to which I identified myself. As we entered the court room, _____ called _____ Police to have an officer dispatched to our location. Approximately ten minutes later, a second _____ officer arrived, presumably to intimidate me. At the start of the hearing, _____ daughter whom it is presumed to be _____ was presiding over the traffic trial we were there to deal with. The younger _____ attempted to remove me from the hearing to which I objected to because it was a public hearing and I had a right to be present. At this point I identified myself as a paralegal and a member of the _____ and I was within my rights as a citizen and member of the public to be in the court room. The younger _____ stated that the hearing was not open to the public to which I replied that she was incorrect and I proceeded to take a seat. The hearing proceeded and the younger _____ attempted to leave the bench to speak to the elder _____ and I objected on behalf of my cousin as any communication with outside persons about the case constituted ex parte communication. The younger _____ told the police officer to escort me out of the court room and I again objected, I was threaten with arrest if I didn't leave. So I went outside and waited for my cousin.

On _____ I met with my cousin about the out come of the trial and he prevailed. The younger _____ told my cousin that the reason a second police officer was sent by the elder _____ was in hopes to have me arrested because " _____ ". It is true that I have had cases before _____ and each time my cases were dismissed by the city prosecutor. It is my opinion that the reason _____ dislikes me is because I force her court to follow the law and court rules

Based on the forgoing: _____ has violated judicial canon 1 rule 1.3, judicial canon 2 rule 2.2, judicial canon 2 Rule 2.3, judicial canon 2 Rule 2.11, and judicial canon 2 rule 2.13.