

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 17-046

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

The complainant alleged a superior court judge was rude and made an arbitrary decision.

The responsibility of the Commission on Judicial Conduct is to impartially determine if the judge engaged in conduct that violated the provisions of Article 6.1 of the Arizona Constitution or the Code of Judicial Conduct and, if so, to take appropriate disciplinary action. The purpose and authority of the commission is limited to this mission.

The commission does not have jurisdiction to review the legal sufficiency of the judge's rulings. In addition, the commission found no evidence of ethical misconduct and concluded that the judge did not violate the Code in this case. Accordingly, the complaint is dismissed in its entirety, pursuant to Rules 16(a) and 23(a).

Dated: May 17, 2017

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ George A. Riemer

George A. Riemer
Executive Director

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on May 17, 2017.

This order may not be used as a basis for disqualification of a judge.

2017-046

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 _____ I went before _____ n regards to my daughter's, _____ last name. I gave her my and my older daughter's last name, _____ it birth. The respondent, _____ (_____), wanted her last name to be the same as his, _____ asked lawyer, to speak first, so he did. She then asked me if there was any reason I believed _____ should not have _____ last name. I had previously prepared a statement because I wanted to clearly state my reasoning for giving _____ my last name. There was no reason I did not want _____ to have the last name of _____ but there were multiple reasons I wanted her to have my last name, _____. After my statement, _____ took one small aspect of what I said, twisted it, and said I failed to provide a reason for not to have the last name of _____. I then simply and respectfully asked what her reasoning was for deciding to change _____ last name to _____ just so I would know, but she snapped at me and told me it was my fault and that she only had tradition to go by.

I am writing this complaint because I feel wronged, and that _____ should not treat people this way. She gave me a question that I did not have a reason for, but I felt as though she did not listen to what I did say. She listened for something to twist so she could justify her ruling. I mentioned at the very end, after my major points, that it would be great for both my daughters to be seen as sisters, and since I will be handling daycare, etc. more than _____ they should have the same last name. That is when _____ said the only reason I gave _____ my last name was for convenience, which was NOT true. I tried to explain to _____ that this was not the case but she cut me off multiple times and did not let me speak. When I had asked politely for her reasoning, she snapped at me, said I failed to provide any reasoning other than for convenience, and that she only had tradition to go by, since most children have the last name of their fathers.

Going by tradition means she had no justifiable reason to change _____ last name. Reasoning was that _____ is the father and that it is what everyone else does. _____ didn't have any reason to want _____ to have his last name, other than he is the father. I had more reasoning than the fact that I am the mother or just for convenience. Therefore, she only made her choice because he is male and it is what most people do. This simply shows me that she is unreasonable and sexist. _____ had no right to interrupt and snap at me either, as I was being very respectful and simply trying to be heard since I didn't have anyone to speak for me.

It is my hope that nobody else is treated this way and that _____ rethinks the way she makes decisions. A judge is supposed to be fair and just. People, in general, should treat others as they would like to be treated. _____ did not reflect any of that.