

State of Arizona
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Disposition of Complaint 24-185

Judge:

Complainant:

ORDER

January 17, 2025

The Complainant alleged a superior court judge was biased in a family law case for granting partial custody despite Complainant's evidence that the opposing party was unfit.

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 Roger D. Barton did not participate in the consideration of this matter.

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on January 17, 2025.

To Whom it May Concern

I am writing the Arizona Judicial Board in regard to a family court case being heard here in [redacted] is bias and didn't

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
[Redacted box]

COMPLAINT AGAINST A JUDGE

Name: [Redacted] Judge's Name: [Redacted]

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.

See Attached - Complaint and minutes .

* It also needs to be noted that mother dated Judge " He is another family court judge here in

To Whom it May Concern

I am writing the Arizona Judicial Board in regard to a family court case being heard here in County . I fear for our children's safety. We are concerned that Judge is bias and didn't protect mine and shared children and

I am the respondent in case number

vs

Myself and have been in a relationship for approximately We share children together... age age and age

is very abusive physically, verbally and mentally towards myself The abuse started while I was pregnant with our first child There have been multiple times the county sheriff and police department have been called out to our home. Unfortunately, i never held accountable for his actions. Charges were never brought up against him. I was manipulated in so many ways by and his family. I was brain washed by being told if I ever pressed charges against our children would grow up without a father and that would go to prison since he was on probation. I was told that he had a felony conviction for a burglary charge. Never did I know the details of the conviction until had all of his criminal records pulled. has a very long rap sheet dating back to See attached court records, cases and case numbers.

on multiple occasions has thrown myself and our children out of the home. Has locked me and kids out of our home or he has called my parents on multiple occasions to come pick them all up. Then he'd manipulate me into coming back with empty promises. On was tired and wanted to go to sleep. The children were very rambunctious which made him mad. He took melatonin and shoved it into mouth, placing his hand over her mouth and nose until she swallowed it. Then proceeded to tell if she didn't take the melatonin he'd do the same thing. I feared for our children's safety. I took the kids and went to for a few days while I figured things out and a safe way to leave the home. When I returned to county I resided with my parents and for a few days. While went to work I went to the home we shared and retrieved some of mine and the children's belongings. I had his phone number blocked until I felt it was safe so wouldn't talk me into coming back home. Myself and the children left to to reside with my father and step mom. Once I arrived In I unblocked his number so he could talk to the children.

The children started school and they absolutely loved it! They were eating again, sleeping through the night and their behaviors improved in a positive way. On I was served with court papers. Temporary orders for returning to until custody of the children went through the courts. I filed a response online asking Judge if I could appear by phone due to financial and safety reasons. The judge denied my request. mother hired attorney Plus pays for all his attorneys fees. This forced myself to hire I had to take out a personal loan from

my grandmother. Which I have to pay back in payments once I'm financially able. I returned for the temporary orders to be heard in front of Judge [redacted] on [redacted]. My attorney [redacted] pulled [redacted] criminal record and submitted it as exhibits, she submitted a video of [redacted] verbal abuse towards me, pictures of strangle marks on my neck, text messages stating he wanted me gone and not to return, text message from his grandmother to my mother telling my mother to take care of me and find me and the children a place to live, many police reports from [redacted] county sheriff's dept, [redacted] county PD as well as [redacted] PD. I do have an older daughter from a previous marriage. Her father [redacted] was awarded full custody of [redacted] Judge [redacted] award [redacted] full custody due to the violence in mine and [redacted] shared home. See attached custody agreement for further explanation.

I honestly thought the judge would understand why I took the children and found safety in [redacted]. Unfortunately, Judge [redacted] ruled in father's favor. He awarded [redacted] 50/50 putting in on a 5-2-2-5 visitation plan. No supervision! No stipulations! [redacted] is in and out of drug and alcohol programs which were submitted. The judge also granted Father Christmas from [redacted] to [redacted]. According to [redacted] she's never seen this happen when both parties reside in the same county. One usually gets Christmas Eve and one gets Christmas Day. Alternating years. On [redacted] an amended order came through to my attorney from [redacted] attorney. The amended order was to fill in the gaps such as who can pick up and drop off children. [redacted] stated she needed to wait till the minutes came through to approve the amendment. She sent [redacted] an email stating that she needed to look over the minutes and speak to me. [redacted] went ahead without approval and submitted her amendment. Judge [redacted] signed off on the amendment without and my approval. When the amendment was signed myself and my attorney noticed that this new amendment no longer stated I had final decision making. On [redacted] I had an appointment with [redacted] and a complaint was filed and it was requested to fix the amendment.

It's almost like Judge [redacted] is punishing me for leaving the state of [redacted] or punishing me for not holding father accountable and pressing charges when he abused me. Nevertheless I finally got enough courage, strength and confidence to leave the abusive relationship and find safety.

[redacted] asked for supervised visits asking the judge to please put the kids in his mother's ([redacted]) care during his visitation time. Judge [redacted] denied everything giving [redacted] complete control of the children.

[redacted] pointed out to Judge [redacted] that [redacted] sister [redacted] suffers with drugs and alcohol addictions. She gave birth to a babygirl 2 years ago born on fentanyl at [redacted] and then snuck the baby out of the hospital and tried fleeing to [redacted]. She and child's father were apprehended and arrested. The child is apart of [redacted] and mother is on probation. While on probation she was arrested for extreme DUI. I wanted to make sure [redacted] wasn't allowed to transport the children at anytime. Judge [redacted] denied that as well. [redacted] brought up that mother [redacted] resides with her boyfriend [redacted] who just last year was arrested for DUI. Judge [redacted] ignored all evidence and dismissed all of my concerns.

I did put myself in a bad situation. I felt so manipulated to never say anything out of fear from [redacted] and his family. I regret not leaving sooner, I regret never having him arrested or pressing charges. I am a great mother and great provider. I have shielded our children the best I can from the situation we were

in.

I fear for the safety of the children and myself. With all of his court records, probation records, police records Judge [redacted] has put our children in danger. We live in a very small community where everyone knows everyone. [redacted] and his family are well known in the court system. Judge [redacted] is [redacted]. He brings his [redacted] into the court room. The [redacted]

Judge [redacted] is also very [redacted] as well. [redacted] mother's boyfriend [redacted] is a well known [redacted] It's said around town that [redacted] another. We're told that Judge [redacted] with the children. We hear [redacted] through the community he's ruled in many cases [redacted] circumstances. Not sure why he's a Judge in the family courts ruling on the safety of children if he's not looking at what's in the best interest of the children. The Arizona Judicial Board needs to look into him and investigate. My case is still going through the process of custody and I hope this letter doesn't ruin my chances to save our children. Im trying desperately to relocate back to [redacted] where I can raise our children in a more safe community, better schools and a safe and stable upbringing. I cannot afford to buy or rent here in [redacted] or [redacted] Im a single woman working 60 hours a week for the state of [redacted] I work from home. My attorney fees are astronomical and [redacted] mother is paying all his fees which is financially rapping me. We are all just beside ourselves with the way Judge [redacted] ruled in this case. This is a bias Judge 100 percent! The [redacted] family court judges need to be held at higher standards when it comes to protecting children. Unfortunately, in [redacted] our judges and attorneys have relationships outside the court room. This should be unethical. Our tax dollars are going towards corrupt judges in my opinion. This upcoming election will hopefully get him out of his position and someone who actually cares about the wellbeing of our children. In speaking with many families in our community change needs to happen in our family court. He needs to be looked at very carefully and you need to protect these mothers and children who are going through the same situation as I am. I am now attending weekly counseling to keep myself strong and confident. I'm loosing hope in our court system. Our children deserve to be brought up in a well structured home with safety, love, support and stability.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and investigate Judge [redacted]

Best Regards,

UPDATE:

I've held onto this letter for 5 months in fear that this would hurt my ongoing case. As time has gone on the children are struggling tremendously with Judge [redacted] temporary orders. [redacted] who is [redacted] is struggling in school. She doesn't participate, has outbursts and seems very angry according to her teacher. She tells us that daddy drinks beer all day long and sometimes he's so mean

FILED

COUNTY

Judge: Honorable

Division:

Court Reporter:

Hearing Date:

MINUTE ENTRY

<p>In re the Marriage of:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Petitioner,</p> <p>v.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Respondent.</p>	<p>CASE NO.:</p> <p>TEMPORARY ORDERS HEARING</p> <p>Start:</p> <p>End:</p>
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This matter comes on properly before the Court in courtroom for hearing. Petitioner, is present and represented by Respondent, is present and represented by ; there are no other appearances.

Prior to the commencement of the hearing, the Petitioner marks for identification the following exhibits: #1 (Father's Proposed Legal Decision-making and Parenting Time Plan & (Both Parents & Children in), #2 (Email from dated), #3 (DNA Test Report re dated), #4 (State of Certificate of Vital Record for), #5 (State of Certificate of Vital Record for) and #6 (Photos of Father's house).

Additionally, prior to the commencement of the hearing, the Respondent marks for identification the following exhibits: #1 (Decree of Dissolution of Marriage), #2 (Photos of Mother's injuries), #3 (Hospital record of injured child), #4 (Text between Mother and), #5 (Text between Mother and), #6 (Letter from), #7 (Letter from), #8 (Father's inmate record), #9 (Court records for case numbered), #10 (Court records for case numbered), #11 (Court records for case numbered), #12 (Court records for case numbered), #13 (Court records for case numbered), #14 (Police Department incident report numbered), #15 (Public Access record for), #16 (Public Access records for) and #17 (Video of father and Mother).

IT IS ORDERED that a transcript of the Recording shall be the official record of this proceeding.

The parties and are collectively sworn to answer truthfully before the Court. is excused from the Courtroom until called to testify.

The record reflects that counsel wish to waive their opening statements.

**THE COMMISSION'S POLICY IS
TO POST ONLY THE FIRST FIVE
PAGES OF ANY DISMISSED
COMPLAINT ON ITS WEBSITE.**

**FOR ACCESS TO THE
REMAINDER OF THE
COMPLAINT IN THIS MATTER,
PLEASE MAKE YOUR REQUEST
IN WRITING TO THE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL
CONDUCT AND REFERENCE
THE COMMISSION CASE
NUMBER IN YOUR REQUEST.**