

State of Arizona  
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

---

Disposition of Complaint 24-308

---

Judge:

Complainant:

---

**ORDER**

The Complainant alleged a court of appeals judge reposted a social media post critical of a political candidate.

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.

After review, the Commission found that the judge reposted on Facebook a post opposing a candidate for public office. While this was improper under Rule 4.1 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, the Scope Section of the Code provides that not every transgression will result in the imposition of discipline. The Commission decided, after considering all the facts and circumstances, to dismiss the Complaint pursuant to Commission Rules 16(b) and 23(a), but to issue a warning letter to the judicial officer to avoid publicly endorsing or opposing any candidate for any public office.

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

Dated: February 4, 2025

FOR THE COMMISSION

/s/ Christopher P. Staring

Hon. Christopher P. Staring  
Commission Chair

Copies of this order were distributed to all appropriate persons on February 4, 2025.

Comp (Anonymous)

24-308

Dear Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct,

I thought that with Judge [redacted] Arizona judges would be cautioned to exercise restraint when it came to their social media posts. Sadly, that proved not to be true. At least concerning the Honorable [redacted] it is not true. Therefore, I sadly submit my second anonymous complaint concerning a fellow judicial officer's social media activity.

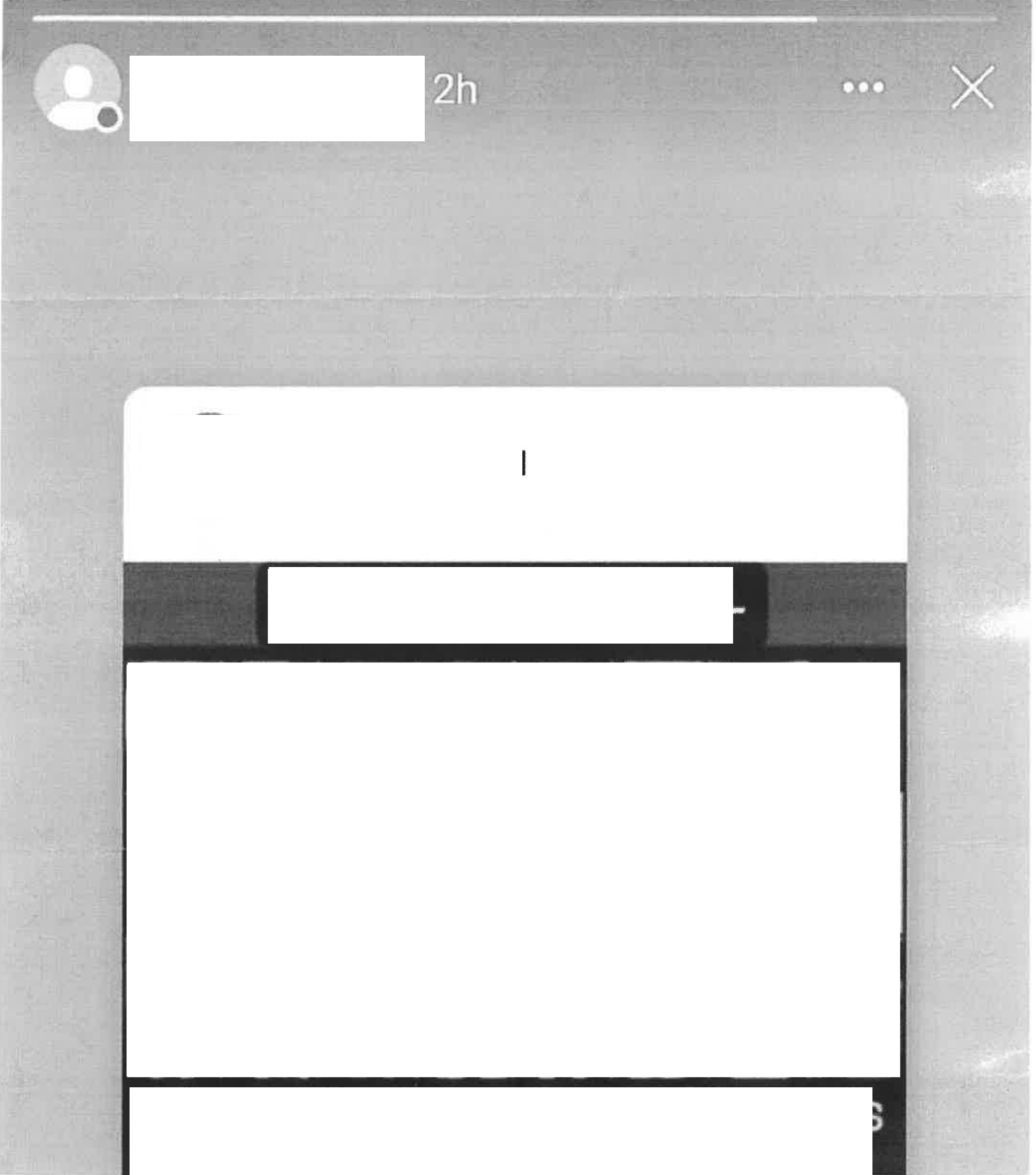
Recently, it was brought to my attention that the Honorable [redacted] of the Arizona [redacted] posted a [redacted] public story that was critical of former [redacted]. The content of the public story, in effect, encouraged others to not vote for [redacted] and to vote for his opponent instead. Judge [redacted] in addition, boldly shared this story that originally was a post by retired Judge [redacted]. Certainly, a retired judge can voice their opinion on political matters, but a sitting appellate judge who may address issues pertaining to elections and/or political figures should not.

Attached is a copy of the posted story. This violates similar judicial cannons that were violated by Judge [redacted]. It is clear that judicial officers in this state could use a refresher on the limitations imposed upon them by the judicial ethics rules concerning social media posts. I further suggest you explore the social media posts of Judge [redacted] whose Facebook page is replete with political posts concerning the [redacted] and the related protests.

Train judges before more embarrassing activity occurs. Thank you for your consideration concerning the alleged unethical conduct of Judge [redacted]

Sincerely,

Anonymous



Send message...

