

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT

---

J.C. No. 03-22-90016

---

IN RE: COMPLAINT OF JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT  
OR DISABILITY

---

ORIGINAL PROCEEDINGS UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 351

---

MEMORANDUM OPINION

---

(Filed: May 10, 2022)

PRESENT: CHAGARES, Chief Judge.

This complaint is filed under the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 351-64, against a United States District Judge (“Subject Judge”). Complainant previously filed other complaints of judicial misconduct naming the Subject Judge and several District and Circuit Judges. All of her prior complaints were dismissed as frivolous and merits-related. J.C. Nos. 03-18-90194 through 03-18-90199. For the reasons discussed below, the present complaint will also be dismissed.

The Judicial Conduct and Disability Act provides a remedy if a federal judge “has engaged in conduct prejudicial to the effective and expeditious administration of the business of the courts.” 28 U.S.C. § 351(a). A chief judge may dismiss a complaint if, after review, he or she finds it is not cognizable under the statute, is directly related to the merits of a decision or procedural ruling, or is frivolous or lacks sufficient evidence to raise an inference of misconduct. 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(i)-(iii).

It is evident that Complainant seeks to dispute the merits of the Subject Judge's decisions in a civil suit that was dismissed more than five years ago. Specifically, she seems to be complaining about not getting the opportunity to seek discovery, the dismissal of her lawsuit, among other matters. Complainant further seeks the retraction of the Subject Judge's opinion from public view. Allegations disputing the merits of judicial rulings do not constitute cognizable misconduct under the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act. "Cognizable misconduct does not include an allegation that calls into question the correctness of a judge's ruling . . . ." Rule 4(b)(1), Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings. Merits-related allegations are not cognizable as misconduct because the "misconduct procedure [under the Act] is not designed as a substitute for, or supplement to, appeals or motions for reconsideration. Nor is it designed to provide an avenue for collateral attacks or other challenges to judges' rulings." In re Memorandum of Decision of Judicial Conference Committee on Judicial Conduct and Disability, 517 F.3d 558, 561 (U.S. Jud. Conf. 2008). Thus, all such non-cognizable allegations are subject to dismissal. See 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii); Rules 4(b)(1), 11(c)(1)(B), Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings.

To the extent that Complainant's allegations are not based solely on her disagreement with the merits of the Subject Judge's rulings, they are unsubstantiated. There is no evidence of any ex parte communications or other type of judicial misconduct. This complaint, therefore, is subject to dismissal as frivolous and unsupported by evidence

that would raise an inference that misconduct has occurred. 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii); Rule 11(c)(1)(C), (D), Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings.

Based on the foregoing, this complaint will be dismissed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii) and (iii). Complainant is cautioned pursuant to Rule 10(a) of the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings that the filing of additional frivolous complaints may lead to restrictions on her ability to file further complaints.<sup>1</sup> In view of the frivolous and merits-related nature of the present complaint, this caution is repeated here.

s/ Michael A. Chagares  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Judge

---

<sup>1</sup> Rule 10(a) of the *Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings* provides:

Abusive Complaints. A complainant who has filed repetitive, harassing, or frivolous complaints, or has otherwise abused the complaint procedure, may be restricted from filing further complaints. After giving the complainant an opportunity to show cause in writing why his or her right to file further complaints should not be limited, the judicial council may prohibit, restrict, or impose conditions on the complainant's use of the complaint procedure. Upon written request of the complainant, the judicial council may revise or withdraw any prohibition, restriction, or condition previously imposed.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT

---

J.C. No. 03-22-90016

---

IN RE: COMPLAINT OF JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT  
OR DISABILITY

---

ORIGINAL PROCEEDINGS UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 351

---

ORDER

---

(Filed: May 10, 2022)

PRESENT: CHAGARES, Chief Judge.

On the basis of the foregoing opinion entered on this date, it is ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the written complaint brought pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 351 is hereby dismissed under 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii) and (iii).

This order constitutes a final order under 28 U.S.C. § 352(c). Complainant is notified in accordance with Rules 11(g)(3) and 18, Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings, of the right to appeal this decision by the following procedure:

Rule 18(a) Petition. A complainant or subject judge may petition the Judicial Council of the Third Circuit for review.

Rule 18(b) Time. A petition for review must be filed in the Office of the Circuit Executive within **42 days** after the date of the chief judge's order.

18(b) Form. The petition should be in letter form, addressed to the Circuit Executive, and in an envelope marked "Misconduct Petition" or "Disability

Petition.” The name of the subject judge must not be shown on the envelope. The letter should be typewritten or otherwise legible. It should begin with “I hereby petition the judicial council for review of . . .” and state the reasons why the petition should be granted. It must be signed. There is no need to enclose a copy of the original complaint.

The full text of the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings is available from the Office of the Circuit Executive and on the Court of Appeals’ internet site, [www.ca3.uscourts.gov](http://www.ca3.uscourts.gov).

s/ Michael A. Chagares  
Chief Judge

Dated: May 10, 2022