

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

JCP No. 08-24-90095 through 08-24-90105
JCP No. 08-24-90108

In re Complaint of John Doe*

This is a series of judicial misconduct complaints filed by a civil litigant against every circuit judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

When a judicial complaint names all active circuit judges as respondents, the Judicial Council “may determine whether to request a transfer [to another circuit] under Rule 26, or, in the interest of sound judicial administration, to permit the chief judge to dispose of the complaint on the merits.” Rule 25(f). The Judicial Council has voted to permit the chief judge to decide the merits of these complaints.

The record shows that the complainant filed a civil lawsuit against several defendants in federal district court in 1990. On September 27, 1991, a magistrate judge convened a settlement conference, and the complainant accepted a settlement offer. Three days later, the district court received a letter from the complainant purporting to refuse the offer that he accepted at the settlement conference. On October 9, 1991, the magistrate judge wrote to the complainant expressing the judge’s opinion that there was a binding settlement agreement. The magistrate judge explained that he intended to recommend enforcement of the agreement, and that he

*Under Rule 24(a) of the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings, the names of the complainant and the subject judge are not disclosed. Citations or references herein to a “Rule” refer to these Rules.

did not consider the complainant's tendered withdrawal as having any legal effect. In January 1992, the district court granted the parties' stipulation for dismissal and terminated the case.

The complainant filed five judicial complaints against the magistrate judge. All were all dismissed. Following the last dismissal in 2014, the Judicial Review Panel of the Judicial Council found that the complainant was a repeat frivolous filer and ordered that he "shall be required to obtain prior permission from the Chief Judge of the Eighth Circuit before filing another judicial complaint." *See* Rule 10(a). With the passage of time, however, the 2014 order was overlooked, and these complaints were filed by the clerk without prior permission.

The complainant accuses all circuit judges of "aiding and abetting," "cover up," and "fraud upon the court." The complainant states he was told by his attorney in October 1991 to sign a settlement release "or go to jail," and that it was "all caught on tape." In a complaint supplement, the complainant alleges that all of the circuit judges "have been disqualified for involvement with" his civil case in the district court in 1990 and 1991. He does not specify how any of the judges were involved in the case.

The record shows that the circuit judges were not involved in the complainant's lawsuit. The complaint's allegations of misconduct are frivolous and "lacking sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred." 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii); Rule 11(c)(1)(C), (D).

For this reason, the judicial complaints are dismissed. The Judicial Council's order of December 1, 2014, remains in effect. If the complainant wishes to file a future judicial complaint, then he must comply with the procedure set forth in that order.

/s/ Steven M. Colloton
Chief Judge

Filed: April 22, 2025
