

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE SIXTH CIRCUIT
MICHIGAN-OHIO-KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

In re:
Complaint of Judicial Misconduct

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*No. 06-13-90081
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M E M O R A N D U M

This complaint was filed with the Judicial Council of the Sixth Circuit pursuant to the Judicial Councils Reform and Judicial Conduct and Disability Act of 1980, P.L. 96-458, as amended by the Judicial Improvements Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-203, the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings, and the Rules Governing Complaints of Judicial Misconduct adopted by the Judicial Council of the Sixth Circuit.

After conducting an initial review, the chief judge may dismiss a complaint as to which he concludes:

- (1) that the claimed conduct, even if the claim is true, is not “conduct prejudicial to the effective and expeditious administration of the business of the courts” and does not indicate a mental or physical disability resulting in inability to discharge the duties of office;
- (2) that the complaint is directly related to the merits of a decision or procedural ruling;
- (3) that the complaint is frivolous, a term that includes making charges that are wholly unsupported.

Rule 4(c), Rules Governing Complaints of Judicial Misconduct or Disability.

This complaint was filed by a federal prisoner against the district judge who was later assigned to his criminal cases when the originally assigned judge retired. Complainant’s sole allegation is that the original judge allowed the prosecutor to constructively amend the indictment before sentencing, and that the successor to the original judge, who is the subject of this complaint, should have done something about it.

The complaint is subject to dismissal as directly related to the merits of the named judge’s decisions in complainant’s underlying criminal proceedings pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii) and Rule 11(c)(1)(B) of the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings. Such decisions are not the proper subject of a complaint of judicial misconduct. See Rule 3(h)(3)(A), Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability

Proceedings. The Judicial Council is not a court and has no jurisdiction to review the named judge's rulings or to grant relief requested in the underlying case. See *In re Complaint of Judicial Misconduct*, 858 F.2d 331 (6th Cir. 1988).

For these reasons, the complaint will be dismissed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii) and Rule 11(c)(1)(B) of the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alice M. Batchelder', written in a cursive style.

Alice M. Batchelder
Chief Judge

Date: 08-01-14