

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE
TENTH CIRCUIT**

IN RE: COMPLAINT UNDER THE
JUDICIAL CONDUCT AND
DISABILITY ACT

No. 10-22-90008

Before **HOLMES**, Chief Judge

MEMORANDUM & ORDER

Complainant has filed a complaint of judicial misconduct against a district judge in this circuit. My consideration of this complaint is governed by the misconduct rules issued by the Judicial Conference of the United States, entitled *Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings* (the “JCD Rules”), the federal statutes addressing judicial conduct and disability, 28 U.S.C. § 351 *et seq.*, and relevant prior decisions of the full Judicial Council of this circuit that are consistent with those authorities.

The JCD Rules and this circuit’s local misconduct rules are available to complainants on the Tenth Circuit’s web page at:
<https://www.ca10.uscourts.gov/cc/misconduct>. Paper copies are also furnished by the Circuit Executive’s Office upon request. In accordance with those rules, the names of the complainant and subject judge shall not be disclosed in this order. *See* JCD Rule 11(g)(2).

Complainant, filing pro se, alleges misconduct by the named judge, as well as several other unnamed judges. For purposes of this complaint, the allegations are reviewed regarding the named judge only. Complainant's lengthy complaint contains generalized allegations of bias and abuse of discretion, but he does not provide specific instances that he believes demonstrate the claimed violations. Instead, he argues the merits of his underlying civil matter, and infers that because the named judge and other unnamed judges entered rulings against him, they committed misconduct in doing so. The misconduct process is not a forum for relitigating the underlying claims. These claims are not cognizable as misconduct because they are "directly related to the merits of a decision or procedural ruling." JCD Rule 11(c)(1)(B); *see also* Commentary to JCD Rule 4 (stating that "[a]ny allegation that calls into question the correctness of an official decision or procedural ruling of a judge—without more—is merits-related"). Additionally, complainants are required to support their allegations with "sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred." *See* JCD Rule 11(c)(1)(D). And Complainant has not provided such evidentiary support for his allegations here.

Accordingly, this complaint is dismissed pursuant to JCD Rule 11(c). The Circuit Executive is directed to transmit this order to complainant and copies to the subject judge and the Judicial Conference Committee on Judicial Conduct and Disability. *See* JCD Rule 11(g)(2). To seek review of this order, complainant must file a petition for review by the Judicial Council. The requirements for filing a petition for review are set out in JCD Rule 18(b).

The petition must be filed with the Office of the Circuit Executive within 42 days after the date of the chief judge's order. *Id.*

So ordered this 27th day of February, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerome A. Holmes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Honorable Jerome A. Holmes
Chief Circuit Judge