JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE TENTH CIRCUIT

IN RE: COMPLAINT UNDER THE JUDICIAL CONDUCT AND

DISABILITY ACT

No. 10-23-90003

Before **HOLMES**, Chief Judge

MEMORANDUM & ORDER

Complainant has filed a complaint of judicial misconduct against a magistrate 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/ce/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).

1

Complainant, filing pro se, alleges the magistrate judge unduly delayed acting in two separate civil cases filed by him, thereby resulting in harm. A review of the docket for both cases does not appear to demonstrate improper delay in either matter.

Additionally, these claims are also not cognizable as misconduct under the JCD Rules, which state, "a complaint of delay in a single case is excluded as merits-related. Such an allegation may be said to challenge the correctness of an official action of the judge, i.e., assigning a low priority to deciding the particular case." JCD Rule 4 cmt. However, "an allegation of a deliberate delay in a single case arising out of an improper motive, is not merits-related." *Id.* To prove an inappropriate delay with an improper motive under Comment 4, Complainant must support his allegations with "sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred[,]" and Complainant has not done so. *See* JCD Rule 11(c)(1)(D).

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 28th day of April, 2025.

Honorable Jerome A. Holmes

Chief Circuit Judge